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Poetry.

OMAR KHAYYAM.

At Naishapur, who knows of Omar's tomb—
If still the Grape sends Runners out to snare
The Flower o' the Nightingale—the Rose-in-Bloom,
Or blossomed Fruit Trees heap their white waste there?

His Song of Fate-Unsolved vaunts over-much
The Ministry of Wine, yet holds at Brim
A fragrant Cordial for our Lips to touch—
Who pours Libations now to Earth for him!

Ah, happy Poet, who set the Joys that were
Against the Creed of Saint and Mussulmah,
The Lords of Life and Death still baffle Seers,
But lying in thy Grave at Naishapur
The Problems we wake in the Night to scan
Are solved for thee this Seven-Hundred Years.
—Ione Kent, in Boston Transcript.

BAD POETS.

Let us regulate the poets, let us smite
the faithless bard
Who is sending in bad metre to the papers by the yard.
He it is who spreads destruction wheresoever he may go,
Giving earth the reputation of a wilderness of woe.

If he hears of some one dying, he will write a doleful screed
Of the "pangs of dissolution," for the dead one's friends to read.
He will paint a dismal picture of old Gabriel and his horn,
And a ghastly, grim reunion on the resurrection morn.

He will picture heaven up yonder, far above this vale of sin,
With its gate of pearl, fast bolted, that but few can enter in,
And he writes of harps and halos, hoarded for the favored few,
In a rhythmicless production that would make an iceberg blue.

'Tis the duty of a poet, if to rhyme is his desire,
First to know that he's afflicted with the true "poetic fire;"
Then he ought to choose a topic full of hopefulness and light,
Set the metre gauge in order, and bear down with all his might.

If the rhyming is imperfect, if the rhythm is something worse,
If his thoughts refuse to follow the sweet harmonies of verse;
If to rhyme the rules of syntax must be steadily profaned,
Then the poet is not poet, and he ought to be restrained.
—Nebraska State Journal.

AN ELECTROSTATIC PAIR.

He was a gallant engineer
Of a giant dynamo;
She sang to the wires the whole day long
With a chorus of "Hello!"

He loved this telephonic maid,
Till his heart's vibrating plate
Was magnetized and polarized
At a milliamperic rate.

His love he expressed in ohms,
And amperes, or even in volts;
In voltaic phrases and dynamo figures,
Or currents, arc lights and bolts.

Said he: "By the great broken circuit,
Or more, by the Ruhmkorff coil,
Your negative answers will drive me
To some subway under the soil.

"Not a spark of inductive affection,
Not a positive 'Yes' have I had;
I'm afraid the wires have grounded
In favor of some other lad."

Then regret like a galvanometer,
Or an astatic needle, it smote her,
And she said: "Of love I have lots
As strong as an Edison motor."

So he opened the circuit and clasped her
In the arm-ature, and held here there;
And she was the belle electric
Of this thermo-electric pair.
—Hardware.

Miscellany.

A SAMOAN BEAUTY.

Every country boasts its most beautiful girl. Samoa has a beauty to add to the

FA'MUU.

list. Her name is Fa'muu and she is the daughter of the late King Malietoa.

Princess Fa'muu wears European ornaments at the diplomatic receptions and balls, but she prefers her native dress, as the picture shows.

Not According to Agreement.

An Irish principal in a recent impromptu mill, realizing that he was being badly worsted, vigorously protested to the bystanders against the methods of his adversary.

"Sure, an' wasn't it to be a fair stand-up fight?" he excitedly exclaimed.

"It certainly was," returned an onlooker, who had been a witness of the preliminary arrangements.

"An' how, thin," retorted the defeated candidate, "can he be ixpectin' me to shtand up and foight 'im fairly if he do be knockin' me down all the toime?"—Richmond Dispatch.

Too Clever to Keep.

First Shipping Clerk—Have you heard that Robson has got sacked?

Second Shipping Clerk—No. Is that a fact? I thought he was such a clever sort of a chap.

First Shipping Clerk—Too clever by half. He invoiced a consignment of cradles as matrimonial fruit baskets.—Vanity Fair.

Not So Demoralizing.

"Let's go to the play this evening?"

"My mamma won't let me go to theatres. There's to be an illustrated lecture on Spain, with moving pictures of a bull-fight, at a hall on the West Side. Mamma says I can go and see that.—Chicago Tribune.

Where Reason Totters.

Husband—What! Another hundred dollar gown. Didn't I tell you that you must keep within your allowance?

Wife (triumphantly)—You said unless in case of absolute necessity!—Puck.

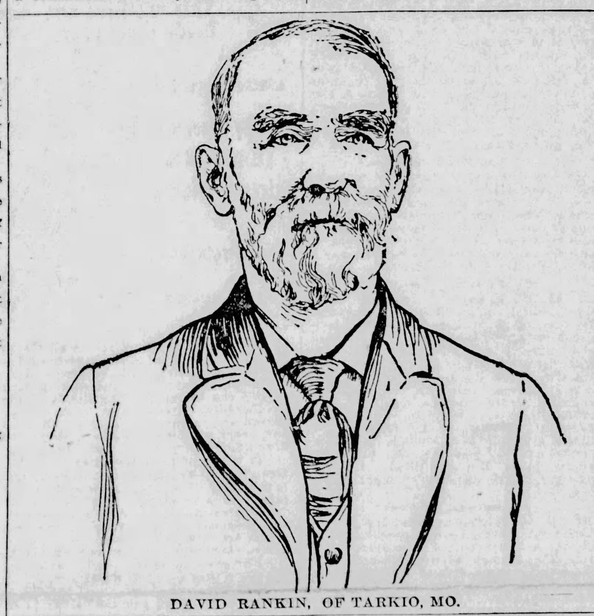
OUR RICHEST FARMER.

DAVID RANKIN, OF MISSOURI, OWNS 23,000 ACRES.

Fattens More Cattle Than Any Man in the World—Raises 800,000 Bushels of Corn Yearly.

A millionaire farmer lives in Missouri and farms all-round and all the year round. Tarkio, Atchison county, is his local habitation, David Rankin his name. To be strictly accurate, the Hon. David Rankin; he has served more than one term in the state legislature. He owns and manages 23,000 acres of land in Atchison county, worth from $50 to $100 the acre, and not in the market even at those figures. He has bought every acre of it since 1876, mostly from speculative Eastern holders, who were gleeful at getting $6 to $10 an acre for their holdings because the railway, you see, had passed them by.

It gives a new idea of magnificent Western distances to know that the Rankin lands are scattered over an area of forty odd miles. Yet their owner visits them all every little while. He lives in a handsome house just outside the town of Tarkio. Five o'clock every fine morning finds him in his buggy, whirling to his main office as fast as a spanking span can carry him. He finds a confidential secretary awaiting him,



DAVID RANKIN, OF TARKIO, MO.

A brief interval of talk, clear and pointed instructions, a few notes, mental and written, then he whips away for a round of maybe half a dozen of his fourteen farms before he thinks of turning his horses' head home.

The farms run from 600 to 3,000 acres. To work them requires between 120 and 150 hands, 700 horses, more than 100 wagons, plows, harrows, planters, cultivators and seeders innumerable. Each ranch is in charge of a competent foreman, who gets $50 a month and board. Farm hands are paid $20 a month and board. Usually the foreman's family runs the farm boarding house. Besides the various foremen there is a farm superintendent, at a salary many a bank official might envy. It is questionable, however, if his best endeavors are worth as much as the eye of the master.

Never Sells His Corn.

All the land is arable, yet but little more than half goes yearly under plow. Perhaps 2,000 acres are sown to wheat. The remainder is planted in corn, and yields in average years 800,000 bushels. Not a grain of it is sold until it has been transformed into fat stock. In addition to his own crop Mr. Rankin buys whatever corn his neighbors have to sell. He buys also their stalk fields, after the corn is gathered, and turns into them herds of cattle, to gather up their rich gleanings. Besides all that, he buys ton upon ton of cotton seed meal, for feeding. Small wonder that his lands grow and increase in fertility under continuous cropping.

All land not plowed is laid down in clover, timothy and blue grass pastures. After standing four years they are fallowed, and put in grain, the grain fields meantime going back into grass. Thus part of the soil, originally as rich as any in the world, is always resting.

Fattens More Cattle Than Any Other Man.

Mr. Rankin fattens more cattle than any other man in the world. Every year he buys and fattens eight to ten thousand head. The bulk of them come from Texas, though Kansas, Nebraska Iowa and Missouri are fair sources of supply.

He keeps 10,000 to 12,000 head of hogs all the time, and sells fat ones to the value of $80,000 yearly. All these he raises. In fact, he never buys a pig, except for the infusion of new blood into his breeding stock. Some years back, while there was money in horses, he undertook the breeding of draught beasts, and built upon his home farm just outside Tarkio, a horse barn, very much up to date. It cost $10,000, and is an octagonal brick building, four stories high. It is lighted throughout with electricity. Each stall has its own incandescent lamp, and the cupola, an arc light which turns midnight into day all over the barnyard.

David Rankin Personally.

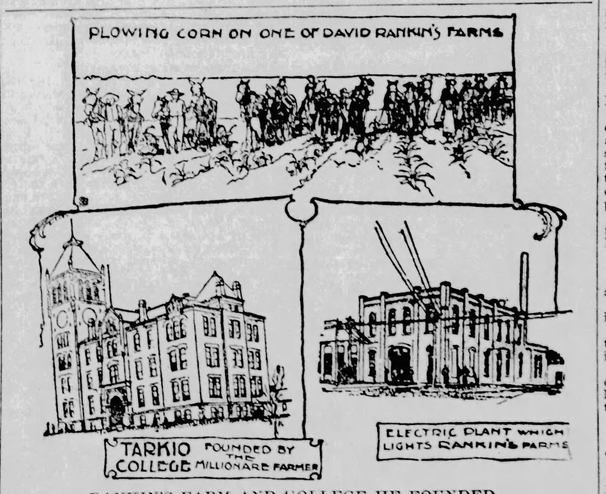
It is worth while to look a little into the genesis of this man, and his fortune. Physically, he is tall, raw-boned, sinewy, with keen blue eyes, a weather beaten face, gray hair and beard. Primitive to a degree, yet without roughness. He knows life, knows men, yet has never got far from the soil. It does not astonish you to find that he was as a young man, a follower and ardent admirer of Abraham Lincoln. He grew up in Illinois, though he was born in Sullivan county, Indiana, May 28, 1825. The Rankins were of Scotch-Irish strain. David's father, a poor farmer, must have been something of a nomad. He moved many times between the Indiana home and the final settling in what is now Henderson county, Illinois. David quit the schools at the age of 11, and set to work for his living.

Began Life With One Colt.

When he was free, his father gave him a colt, the first thing he ever owned. Most smart youngsters would have seen in it a prospective saddle horse. David in it a prospective saddle horse. David was another sort. He sold the colt for $52, and put the money in calves, to grow while he worked for more. Pretty soon he had the chance to buy an 80-acre farm. It took grit to go in debt for it, with wheat at 25 cents a bushel, and firewood one dollar the cord. Inside of four years he had paid for it with money earned mostly by breaking prairie. That first 80-acre farm had a herd of cattle on it even before it was paid for. So driving and thriving, the master of it came to own 3,000 acres, then went west. Atchison county has much more than justified his choice of a new residence. It is no longer a region of one railway. A new one, the Tarkio Valley, runs right through the middle of it, and Tarkio town, a beautiful and thriving village, has grown up magically in its eighteen years of life. Naturally, Rankin interests predominate. David Rankin is president and principal shareholder in the town's First National bank, as well as president of the Electric Light and Power company, the Water company, the Rankin Auditorium company and the Tarkio Brick and Tile company. These various enterprises represent the investments of over $100,000 of Rankin money. In addition to them, Mr. Rankin has trade relations with most of the trade centers and is in close touch with monied men all over the country.

Founds a College.

Surpassingly rich, he has not forgotten what it means to be poor. As becomes his blood, he is a Presbyterian, and strives to live his religion as well as to believe it. Liberal in support of his church and her works, he can be depended on to be as liberal to any good cause, especially the cause of education. Tarkio college has received from him nearly $100,000. He had given to the institution above $25,000 when fire destroyed


PLOWING CORN ON ONE OF DAVID RANKIN'S FARMS
TARKIO COLLEGE
FOUNDED BY A MILLIONAIRE FARMER
ELECTRIC PLANT WHICH LIGHTS RANKIN'S FARMS

RANKIN'S FARM AND COLLEGE HE FOUNDED.

the main building. He at once offered $25,000 toward rebuilding if as much could be raised elsewhere. Since then he has had a standing offer to give to the college a dollar for every dollar contributed outside.

He has been liberal to other schools than his home college, to other churches than his own United Presbyterian.

"Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," is a living law upon every foot of Rankin land. By way of helping his men to keep it, Mr. Rankin stipulates in the beginning that Monday shall be pay day. As they are paid off weekly, he thinks it wise to minimize Sunday temptations. He does not relish the thought that a man may waste his earnings in an hour, and leave his family in want before next week's money comes in.

THINKS IT "LUCKY."

One Chicago man pulls his pockets out of shape by carrying around with him a flat chunk of copper stamped with a double-headed eagle and looking like some barbaric ornament. It is a Russian kopek and, though it is just the size of two silver dollars laid flat together, its value is only about half a cent. He says that the more of these coins a man has

A REGULAR POCKET TEARER.

the worse off he is, because it costs more to carry them than they are worth. However, the possessor would not part with this particular coin for any amount of money, for to him it is "lucky" and in "flipping up" it never fails to act to his best interest. The cost of three good luncheons in succession won from an importunate life insurance agent bear testimony to its powers.

PHILOSOPHY OF A WOMAN

Of Irish birth and Scotch upbringing, Mrs. Merington had lived in London, Paris and Vienna, and had had in her day opportunities of studying men and manners, love and life, such as are afforded to few of her sex, says the Pall Mall Magazine.

About life she had many characteristic sayings, of which I remember a few.

"The only rule for happiness here below is to limit your wants."

"Soft hearts are the world's pin-cushion."

"To succeed in life, be selfish and good-tempered, confident and indifferent.

"If a man wants to make a name, he must learn to take fate by the throat."

"Some men die without ever having lived; some women without ever having loved; some critics without ever having praised."

"The inevitable is invariably disagreeable."

"Telling the truth may be the worst of treachery."

"Nothing is more astonishing than the badness of good people and the goodness of bad."

"It is finer not to suspect evil than to excuse it."

"Hard words break no bones, but they often break hearts."

"It is impossible to be both jealous and just."

"Some people are like nettles. If you do not want to be stung by them you must either avoid or crush them."

Speaking of those who are carried away by impulse and have cause to regret their impetuosity, she said: "The pleasure to be had out of making a fool of one's self is at best but momentary."

WONDERFUL DIET

Keene Had Fixed One for Mother-in-Law.

"My dear," said Mr. Keene, "I ordered to-day a five-pound package of roasted grain which is said to be an excellent substitute for coffee. We will use it hereafter instead of coffee."

"Why, John!" grasped Mrs. Keene.

"And I ordered a 100-pound can of what is called nutty-nut. We will use it instead of butter," continued Mr. Keene, calmly.

"John!" exclaimed Mrs. Keene.

"I also ordered several bushels of raw peanuts. You will have them boiled for twelve hours, and we will use them exclusively in place of meat. I am informed that they are just as nutritious and much more healthful," continued Mr. Keene.

"What?" cried Mrs. Keene.

"You will also find among the things when they come various other preparations of grains and nuts, the names of which have slipped my mind, but which we will have in place of bread and cake and potatoes and pastry and desserts generally. And I almost forgot to add that in the future we will not use pepper, salt, spices and pickles. I have learned that they are very unwholesome, indeed," concluded Mr. Keene.

"Goodness gracious, John, have you gone daft on the subject of health food?" demanded Mrs. Keene.

"No, my dear, not at all," replied Mr. Keene, "but I think we will find what its devotees call a rational diet extremely useful in this emergency."

"What emergency?" asked Mrs. Keene.

"Your mother's proposed visit, my dear," replied Mr. Keene. "I really am afraid that the dear old lady may not stay long enough to realize all the benefits from it, but even then we will have the satisfaction of knowing that we have done our best to teach her how to live properly."

Then Mr. Keene went into the next room to wink at himself and chuckle.—New York World.

To Save the Nerves.

"Grip hit you in the ear, old man?" asked one citizen of another.

"Never had the grip, sir. Never sick in my life, sir."

"Oh, I beg your pardon, but I have noticed for several days that you are wearing your ears covered."

"Yes," with an embarrassed grin, "my daughter's practicing on an operatic 'lullaby' for an parlor entertainment."—Detroit Free Press.

"God Bless the Duke of Argyll."

"You Americans," said the Scotchman, "suffer from an itch for notoriety."

"An itch for notoriety," responded the American, with spirit, "is better than a notoriety for——"

But at that point they clinched.—Indianapolis Journal.

She Acted Promptly.

He sighed heavily.

"I do not see," he said, "why you treat me with such unexpected coldness."

The young girl arose from her seat and put her head between the curtains that divided the parlor and reception hall from the library and dining room.

"Jane," she shrilly cried, "give the furnace a shake an' chuck in a'mee coal!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Similarity.

Rambling Raggs—I t'ink ducks has got almost human intelligence.

Patched Pants (astounded)—Wot! Always goin' inter de water?

Rambling Raggs—Yes, but never gettin' wet, mind yer—never allowin' it ter touch 'em.—Judge.

Our New Serial Story.

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THE HOUSE..... ...BY THE LOCK

BY MRS. C. L. WILLIAMSON

Author of "THE WOMAN IN GREY," "FORTUNE'S SPORT," "LADY MARY OF THE DARK HOUSE," ETC.

CHAPTER I.—THE LADY IN THE STAGE-BOX.

"Hullo, old chap! Who would ever have thought of seeing you here to-night? What's brought you back to civilization again?"

I turned suddenly, surprised by the sound of a familiar voice in my ear. It was the night of Christmas Eve, and I was just entering the lobby of the St. James', the first time, as it happened, I had seen the inside of a theatre for two years.

For the fraction of a moment I could not remember where I had known the man who had addressed me so jovially. My way of knocking about the world brought me into contact with so many people that it was difficult to sort my gallery of faces, and keep each one mentally ticketed. But after a second or two of staring through that convenient medium, my monocle, I was able to place the man who had accosted me. He was a rich mining king from Colorado, by the name of Harvey Farnham, whom I had met in Denver, when I had been dawdling through America three or four years ago.

I pronounced his name with a certain self-satisfaction in having so readily recalled it, and we shook each other by the hand.

"What's brought me back to civilization?" I echoed lazily. "I really don't know—unless it was because I'd got tired of the other thing. Adventure—change—that's what I am in search of, my dear Farnham."

"And you come back here from service as war correspondent in Egypt (where I last read of you in the papers as having been carried down a cataract for twenty-six miles before a launch ran out and saved you) in the hope of finding 'adventure' in this workaday close of the nineteenth century? That's too good."

I laughed and shrugged my shoulders. "Yes; why not? Why should there not be as great a possibility of obtaining new sensations, or at least old ones in different form, in London as anywhere else?"

It did not occur to me, as I idly spoke the words, that I was uttering a prophecy.

"How is it," I went on rather curiously, "that you remembered me, 'honoring my draft on sight,' so to speak? It must be four years since that very jolly supper you gave me in Denver one night, and I fancy I have changed considerably since then."

Farnham smiled in his comical American way, which was a humorous sentence in itself.

"Well, I guess it's not so easy to forget a face like yours. You are a little browner, your eyes rather keener perhaps, your head held a bit higher, your shoulders broader and drawn back more like a soldier's than ever; but, so far as I can see, those are the only changes. You might easily have forgotten me, and I'm immensely flattered that you haven't. But the fact is, my dear boy, you are simply the most interesting man I ever came across, in my own country or any other. You've always seemed like a sort of hero of a tale of adventure to me; and, you see, one don't let a chap like that drop out of one's recollection. I've always eagerly followed your doings, so far as one could follow them in the newspapers, and I read your African book with the greatest interest; but somehow I never got to hear much personal gossip about you. Say, are you married or anything?"

"Many things, but not married," I returned. "I haven't had time to think of women. Besides, if I had, who would take me? No money, no prospects, a man who can't be happy for a fortnight in one place! What a life I should lead a woman!"

"Ah, that's one side of the picture, of course; but here's the other, as the world sees it. You're a sort of popular hero—African traveled, war correspondent, writer of books, Polar explorer, and I don't know what besides, though you can't yet be anywhere near thirty-five. You've got the figure of a soldier, and just the sort of dark, unreadable face that women rave about. What does money matter with a chap like that? Nothing. I wonder you've managed to escape the match-making mammas so long. They're quite as keen on a celebrity, in my country at least, as they are on a millionaire."

"Nevertheless they have not given me much trouble," I said, smiling a little, however, at the remembrance of one or two amusing episodes which I had not the slightest intention of relating. "There, the way to the box-office is clear at last. Once that fat old man is out of the way, it will be my turn. Shall I get your stall for you, and so save time?"

"Yes, by all means, thank you. Are you alone, Stanton?"

"Quite alone. I'd almost forgotten what the theatre was like, and determined to come and refresh my memory."

"I'm by myself, too. Say, old man, would it be a liberty if I asked you to try and get stalls for us together?"

"Delighted, I'm sure," I answered, though, as a matter of fact, I was not quite certain whether I was telling the truth or not. Farnham had been well enough in Denver, but I did not know whether I should care to pass in his society a whole evening, which I had meant to be one of solitary enjoyment. However, he had left me nothing else to say, and I responded with what alacrity I could, little dreaming that my whole future was hanging on my words, and the result of my confab with the man in the box-office.

The play was a popular one, and perhaps on no night of the year, save Christmas Eve or some Lenten fast, could we have obtained two stalls side by side, a few minutes before the ringing-up of the curtain. As it was we were successful, and I walked into the theatre by the side of the tall, thin, smooth-faced American. We sat down, in the third or fourth row of the stalls, and, as the orchestra had not yet come in, began to talk.

Farnham explained to me that he had "run over" England on business, intending to sell a certain mine of his, which, though vastly profitable, was the one thing in which he had lost interest. The other mines in which he was part owner were situated in his own state, Colorado, while this particular one, the "Miss Cunningham," was in California, and he was tired of journeying to and fro.

"I've had a good offer," he said; "indeed, I'm visiting in the house of the man who has made it—a wonderful fellow, only one degree less interesting, perhaps, than you. His name is Carson Wildred. Did you ever hear of him?"

"No," I answered, though possibly not to know Mr. Carson Wildred was to argue myself unknown.

"He seems to have plenty of money," explained Farnham, "and though he's a new-comer in London, has got in with a number of good people. He has two houses, one in Sloane street and one up the Thames, a queer, lonely old place, near Purley Lock, if you know where that is. I'm staying out there with him now, as it happens, though I can't say I'm as fond of the river as he is at this season. But when a few papers and a good round sum of money have changed hands, a couple of days or so from now, I shall bid Wildred and England au revoir. I expect to sail for America at the end of the week, and jolly lucky I think myself to have run up against you to-night."

Somehow, as he rattled on about his own affairs, my heart began to warm towards Farnham. He was not a particularly brilliant fellow, though a good business man; but he had such a whimsical face, with its bright eyes, its good-natured mouth, and its laughable, upturned nose! He was so frankly interested in life, so enthusiastic, so outspoken, so boyish in many of his ways, despite his forty years! I found myself almost inclined to be sorry that he was leaving England so soon.

"I should like you to meet Wildred," he went on. "I don't know whether you'd fancy him, but you couldn't help thinking his a remarkable personality. It would be interesting to see you two chaps together. He's at the theatre to-night, by the way, with some friends of his—rather swells. It was an old engagement, made before I went out to his house, but he had to keep it, of course. They'll be in that stage-box over there, and as Wildred has been industriously raising my curiosity about the beauty of one of the ladies for the past few days, I concluded to drop in and take the only chance I was likely to get of a look at her. And mighty glad I am that I did so make up my mind, or I should have left England without clapping eyes on someone I'd rather see than all the professional beauties in London."

As he finished speaking, the overture, which had now been on for some time, ceased, and the curtain went up on a very pretty bit of stage setting.

There was no curtain-raiser, and the first act was well constructed and interesting from the commencement. It was delightful to me to feel, as I did, that I was no longer blase of town life, or the mimic life of the theatre, and I was inclined to the interruption when Farnham nudged me, whispering:

"There's Wildred and his friends just coming into the stage-box. By Jove! what a pretty girl!"

I looked up, because I was sure the volatile American would give me no peace until I had done so; and then, having looked up, I promptly forgot the play and its dramatis personae.

Two years I had spent in Africa and Egypt, and I had not seen many fair faces during that time of travel and campaigning. I was in a mood therefore, to appreciate the delicate loveliness of English women; but, even had I been surfeited with beauty, my eyes would have lingered in a species of wonder on the girl just seating herself in a corner of the stage-box. It is possible that I have seen other women as beautiful, many more classically perfect of feature, but never have I looked upon a face so radiant, so bewildering.

For the moment I scarcely glanced at the girl's companions, though I was vaguely conscious that there was an older woman, and that two men were taking chairs in the darker background of the box.

All the other figures on the stage and in the auditorium became meaningless for me. There was the dazzling girl in white, and, so far as I was concerned, no one else in the theatre.

The girl could not, I thought, have been more than twenty, and every turn of the beautifully poised little head, every dimpling smile, told that she was full of the joy of life.

"What do you think of Wildred?" whispered Farnham, his lazy American drawl waking me out of a dream.

I did not wish him to see how completely I had been absorbed, how foolishly I had lost my head, and, therefore, I turned my attention to the two men in the back of the box.

CHAPTER II.—THE MAN WITH THE PALE EYES.

En passant, my eyes dwelt for an instant upon a stout woman of a certain age, whose figure was encased in a sort of armour of steel-gray satin and beads, and whose carefully-arranged head was adorned by a small tiara of diamonds, but they found no temptation for lengthy lingering.

One of the men was old, grey-bearded, and large of girth, with a huge expanse of snowy shirt, and a head guiltless of hair. The other was comparatively young, not many years past my own age, perhaps, and a curious thrill, which I could not myself have explained, passed through me as I looked, through half-shut eyes, at his face. Where had I seen it before? Or did it bear but a haunting resemblance to some other, painted on my memory's retina in lurid, yet partially-obliterated, colors?

I had no doubt which of the two was Carson Wildred, Farnham's friend and host. What he had said of the man's personality assured me of his identity.

It was passing strange to me that I should be so strongly impressed by the feeling that I had seen the face before, under startling and disagreeable circumstances, and yet be unable to identify it. Something seemed to be lacking, or changed, which broke the chain of evidence in my mind. Surely I should have been able to remember that peculiar nose, with the flattened bridge, now presented to me in profile. It would be a sign of a lacking bump of observation to have forgotten the angle of that protruding lower jaw, and the strong contrast between the almost copper-colored skin, jet black hair, and large, brilliant blue eyes—so light as to appear almost white.

It was impossible, I told myself, that I had met the man before. His remarkable and uncommon cast of features had no niche in my recollection, and yet I knew that in some crucial moment I had looked into those pale and scintillating eyes.

A wave of repulsion swept over me. I could not remember when I had experienced two such keen emotions as my surprised admiration for the girl, and the dislike, almost amounting to disgust, which I felt for Farnham's friend, Carson Wildred. Something deeper than mere annoyance surged in my breast, that that dark personality should lurk so near to the spotless whiteness of the gauzy drapery, which vaguely seemed to me a part of the girl's self.

"Eh? What did you say? How do you like his looks? Peculiar face, isn't it?" queried Farnham, close to my ear.

"Yes, it is peculiar," I answered mechanically, snatching at the phrase.

"And the girl! Isn't she something rather choice?"

"Very lovely. Who is she?"

"A Miss Karine Cunningham. Same name as the mine that Wildred is going to tak off my hands. Merely a coincidence, but I fancy it influenced him in his wish to buy the property, perhaps. He is very much in love with the girl, and rich as he apparently is, she can more than match him, I should say. She's an orphan, whose father, though he came of what you English call a 'good family,' made his pile in trade; and Sir Walter Tressidy, who is in the box with his wife, was her guardian until she came of age, about a year ago. She still lives with them, and Lady Tressidy takes her about. All these things Wildred, who is never so happy as when he is talking of Miss Cunningham, has told me; so, you see, I'm pretty well primed as to her antecedents, means, and so on. The girl has thirty thousand pounds a year if she has a penny. Whew! Only think what that means in American money. She could buy and sell me."

I might have truthfully replied that the young lady might have had me without either buying or selling, since—for the first time in my callow days—these few moments had taught me what it was to experience a wild quickening of the pulses under the casual glance of a woman's eyes.

She had seen me. So much satisfaction at least was mine. Wildred had, doubtless, pointed out his friend, and her gaze had passed on to me—drawn, perhaps, by the compelling magnetism of the strange new feeling which dominated me.

Wishing to avoid the appearance of rudeness, I would have looked away, but I found myself for an instant unable to do so. It was ridiculous to fancy it, and yet I could not help imagining that the girl's exquisite face lighted up with an expression akin to interest as her eyes rested upon mine.

It was for me a moment of intoxication as I felt that those twin violet lakes received full in their depths, the involuntary outpouring of my soul. A sensation of being wrenched away from some safe mooring passed through me as she withdrew her gaze, and turning her head, whispered to Lady Tressidy, who sat beside her. The latter then looked at me, and unhesitatingly put up her sparkling lorgettes.

Farnham had not failed to observe this little pantomime, and was vastly amused thereby.

"This is what comes of being a celebrity," he chuckled. "They've recognised you from th pictures that were in the papers a couple of months ago, or, perhaps, by the photos that were published when your book came out."

"Nonsense!" I said, rather irritably. "They're only annoyed, perhaps, at my staring. Let's turn our attention to the stage."

I set the example which I recommended, but before doing so I gave myself the indulgence of one more lingering glance, and saw that Carson Wildred was eyeing me with undisguised interest.

Was I mistaken—was it only the faint emotion awakened by the mention of a name not quite unknown to the public—or did the man share in my half-recognition of him?

Whatever the feeling excited by the sound of my name or the sight of my face, it was certainly not a pleasant one. The one look I ventured showed me the pale eyes, shadowed by a frown, and the gleam of white teeth, as they gnawed the lower lip under the slight dark line of the mustache.

He glanced from me to Farnham, and something in his look told me that, for a reason to me unfathomable, he was displeased at seeing us together.

At the end of the act we went out for a smoke and a breath of fresh air, and as we were returning we met Wildred near the stairway, which, at the St. James', leads to the boxes on one side of the house.

"I was looking for you," he said to Farnham, and the tones of his voice roused the same vague, unpleasant memories that the eye had stirred.

"And we were just talking of you," Farnham annoyed me by saying. "I should like to be the means of making you two known to each other. Of course, Wildred, you have all heard about Noel Stanton. This is actually he in the flesh, and he has been telling me that he believes he must have seen you somewhere before."

Mr. Wildred tossed away a cigarette, and followed it with his brilliant eyes. He was smiling, but his lips were tense, as his gaze came back to me.

"It is my misfortune," he said, "to be obliged to assure you that Mr. Stanton is mistaken. I know him as well as one can do without having met him, through his book, and a world-wide reputation, but beyond that I have not, till now, had the pleasure."

We looked into each other's eyes, and I knew the man lied, and that he hated me. But the mystery of his personality and my share in his past was as profound a mystery as before.

"Lady Tressidy sent me out particularly," he said, "in quest of you both, having recognized Mr. Stanton from his numerous counterfeit presentments, and she hopes that you will come and be introduced to her and to Miss Cunningham in their box."

Farnham looked at me doubtfully, evidently fearing that I would refuse. But, grudgingly as the message was evidently delivered by Wildred, I grasped at the opportunity it gave.

I should speak to Miss Cunningham. I should know her. I might dare to look at her, and I might touch her hand.

I had gone through some queer experiences in rather an eventful life, and have generally managed to keep a cool head in emergencies. But my head was not cool to-night. Everything was dark to me, except the one lovely face raised smilingly towards mine, as some murmured words of introduction were spoken in the box, a little later, giving me the right henceforth to claim Miss Cunningham as an acquaintance.

I suppose I answered coherently when Lady Tressidy addressed me, and talked without openly making an idiot of myself to Sir Walter. But I remember nothing of the conversation between the second and third acts, save the few words spoken to Miss Cunningham, and an invitation from Lady Tressidy to call on one of her "At Home" days.

After I had gratefully accepted, I turned to the girl.

"Lady Tressidy has said I may come and see her," I ventured. "Will you—may I hope to find you with her?"

She looked up with a sudden, illuminating smile that answered me. "Come soon," she returned. They were her last words for me that night, and they rang in my head as I left her, dizzy with the memory of her loveliness.

CHAPTER III.—A DEAD MAN'S HAND.

I had taken rooms temporarily at the Savoy hotel, not knowing how long it might be ere I should be moved in spirit to desert London; and that night, instead of looking in at the club as I had meant, I went from the theatre straight to the Savoy.

There was a fire burning in my room, and I drew up a chair before it to smoke an unlimited number of cigarettes, and to think of Karine Cunningham.

I had parted from Farnham outside the theatre, and had made an appointment to meet him next day at dinner, which he was to eat with me at my hotel.

I felt no inclination for bed, nor was I in the least sleepy, and yet, before an hour had passed, I must have fallen into a doze.

Suddenly I was awakened by the impression of having heard a sound. I looked round me, half-dazed still from my dreams. The fire had died down, and I had left myself with no other light. Only a ruddy glow lingered on the hearth, and a small clock on the mantlepiece just above lightly chimed out the hour of two.

I must have dreamt the sound, I told myself, for all was silent in the sleeping hotel, and even the rattle of cabs outside was dulled. Still, the impression lingered, and I could hardly persuade myself that I had not heard Harvey Farnham's voice calling my name, and finishing with a gurgling, despairing cry for help, the horror of which had chilled the blood in my veins, even in my sleep.

Though the fire was dead, the room was still warm, and I hardly knew why I should be so cold. Nevertheless, I felt chilled to the bone, and I was glad enough to get into bed as quickly as I could. Several times I was on the point of falling asleep again, but, at just the critical point between reflectiveness and sinking into the soft depths of slumber, I awoke with an almost convulsive start, and a remembrance of the cry I had heard or dreamt. I was sure it must have been the latter, although, I told myself, there might actually have been some fracas in the street, which in my sleep, I had confused with a dream of Harvey Farnham.

Resigning myself to wakefulness at last, I began to plan out the program of the next week, and wonder how much I might avail myself of Lady Tressidy's invitation to call. She was at home on Sundays informally, she had said, whenever she happened to be in town during the winter, though Thursday was her "day" during the season.

Now, the Thursday following would be Christmas Day (this most eventful night being Christmas eve of last year), but it did not see who I might not look in for a few moments on the ensuing Sunday. It had only been because Sir Walter's affairs rendered a short stay in town necessary, that they were spending Christmas in Park-lane. They would probably go away in a few days, and I could not afford to lose my chance; for though I had admired many women in my time, I had never yet seen one whom I wished to make my wife, until Karine Cunningham's lovely face had risen—fair and sweet as a new moon that mingled its silver with the rose of sunset—over my horizon.

I had laughed at men who gravely discussed the possibility of love at first sight, but now I began to realize, half-shamefacedly, that it was not a thing to be convinced of through argument, but by thrilling, magical experience. I would have staked my life that Karine Cunningham's heart and mind were all that her face presaged of them, and so I resolved that, if she were the woman I thought her very life into the attempt to win her.

So thinking, and so resolving, I fell at last from waking dreams to sleeping ones, hoping dimly, as I slipped over the edge of realities, that they might be of Karine Cunningham. But they were not of her. Hardly had slumber got its hold upon me, when I saw myself by the river, looking down into a swiftly rushing tide. It seemed to be somewhere in the country, but I was not sure. I was not sure of my surroundings, and I was conscious that I was watching anxiously for the appearance of some object, whose nature I do not accurately know. It had been daylight in my vision at first—a cold, grey, wintry daylight—but suddenly night fell, with the rapidity that all changes come and go in dreamland, and the only light was a spot of phosphorescent radiance that lay just under the surface of the water, floating gradually down toward me. I knew in my sleep that my eyes were destined to behold some sight of horror, yet I was bound, in a species of frozen fascination, to the spot where I stood, forced to wait for the oncoming of the light and its revelation of mystery.

Slowly it was borne along with the tide, until having reached a bend in the river opposite the spot where I was standing, it ceased to move. I stooped down and saw that the pale light shone forth from a great white diamond on the finger of a dead man's hand. The body was faintly and darkly outlined, even the floating arm might also have been a floating mass of seaweed, were it not that the hand was white as alabaster, and as I bent over it staring down, one of the fingers moved and beckoned. Then I woke with a loud cry: "Harvey Farnham!"

I had gone through a good many dangers in my roving life, and had passed through many a queer adventure, believing that I could still boast unshaken nerves. Neither was I used to dreaming, and the hours of sleep were usually for me a long and peaceful interval of complete unconsciousness.

Now, however, my forehead was damp with a cold sweat, and I could hardly shake off the horror of the vision. It was ridiculous, I said to myself, and yet, even with my eyes open I could see white awfulness of that dead finger, as it beckoned me, shining palely in the light of the diamond ring.

Exactly why I had shouted the name of Harvey Farnham as I woke, I could not understand, unless—it was because I had happened to notice during the evening at the theatre that he still wore on the last finger of his left hand a very remarkable ring, which he had also worn, and of which he had told me the history, when we had met four years previously in America. I had thought it perhaps the very finest diamond I had ever seen in the possession of a private person, and he had mentioned that it had been taken from the first mine of which he had ever been the owner. He had had it for some years, and, having grown stouter meanwhile, the gold setting had cut rather deeply into the flesh of his finger.

He had laughingly alluded to this in Denver, saying that he had promised a pretty girl that she should have the stone when he should be obliged to have the ring cut off, and he meant to stick to it as long as he could. Except for the fact of having remarked that he still wore the ring, and that his finger looked as pinched as a woman's waist beneath its clasp, I could not in any way have described Harvey Farnham's hand. I had doubtless a general impression of its shape and contour in my mind, but I did not now recall that there had been any recognizable likeness between it and the dead hand my dream had shown me. Still, though I was able to give myself a perfectly rational explanation of the dream, and even of the impression of Farnham's voice earlier in the night, I could not shake off a curious and unpleasant sensation of there being some duty connected with the vision which I had left unperformed, or which was yet to be exacted from me in the future.

(To be continued.)

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons or firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers would be free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, nor concerning prices of coins. 6.—No answers by mail.

Coinage Act of 1873.

"What was the object in demonetizing silver in 1873?"—J. A. M., Mt. Vernon, Mo.

The act of 1873 was a codification and revision of all the laws relating to the management of our mints, and of those relating to coinage, which had been passed since 1792. At that time the silver dollar was worth a cent or so more than the gold dollar. This had been the case since the act of 1835. As a result of this very few silver dollars had been coined, because nobody took silver bullion to the mint. It would sell for more than its face value when coined into dollars. All the silver that was so coined was foreign silver coin, etc. The silver dollars had not been in general circulation in all that time. They were melted up and sold as bullion, because they were worth more as bullion than their face value. Congress thereupon wisely abolished the coinage of a dollar that was not used, and nobody objected to it. It was not till silver fell in price so that the silver dollar was not worth as much as a gold dollar that anybody began to howl for its coinage.

Postage Stamps.

"For what purpose is the postage stamp issued—also internal revenue stamp? Can an individual put the letters I. R. on a postage stamp and use it for an internal revenue stamp?"—W. D., Sumner Shade, Ky.

Stamps are simply a great convenience, and that is the reason they are used. The internal revenue law specifies the various things on which internal revenue stamps must be placed. The postage stamps with I. R. on them were furnished simply because enough internal revenue stamps were not ready in time, and are no longer furnished. Any individual who attempted to use postage stamps on which he had printed these letters could be punished for doing it, as it is counterfeiting.

Crete.

"In a conversation I said that Crete belonged to the powers, and my opponent said that it belonged to Turkey. Which is right?"—F. R., Stittsville, Mich.

Crete is under the Turkish flag. Its sovereignty belongs to Turkey; but its government is administered by a governor appointed by the Six Powers.

Use of Electric Motors.

"Is there any advantage gained by using electricity instead of steam, the conditions being as favorable to one as to the other?"—I. H. L., Freeport, Ind.

When the current of electricity is created by the use of steam, the power developed by a dynamo is not as great as that which could be furnished by the steam engine itself. Electric motors, however, are displacing steam in cities, in places where light power only is needed. The current is obtained from the electric powerhouses, and the services of an engineer are therefore not needed.

Czar and Tsar.

"Is it correct that czar is now spelled with a 't' instead of a 'c'? If so, what is the authority?"—F. A. S., Ashley, Ill.

The word czar is from the Latin word Caesar, which became, among the Romans, a title equivalent to emperor. The spelling czar is that used by nations who use the Roman alphabet. The Russian alphabet spells it tsar. The use of either form is correct.

The Baptist Church.

W. E. B., Cammal, Pa.: No Baptists claim that their church was founded by John the Baptist. The Baptists had their origin in the differences of opinion among Christians as to the proper mode of baptism. So far as the Baptists of to-day are concerned, the sect arose at the time of the English reformation under Henry VIII. The Baptists were introduced into this country by Roger Williams and John Clark in 1638, when Rhode Island was settled.

The Philippines.

"What is the difference between the retention of the Philippines by the United States and the annexation of them? Is there a clause in the constitution that forbids the annexation of foreign lands?"—C. F., Winchester, Ind.

Retention means simply a holding; annexation would make them a permanent part of the United States. The difference is just that between a boy's carrying his lunch in his hand, and his eating it. There is no provision in the constitution to prevent annexing territory anywhere in the world.

To Enter West Point.

"Please give the conditions for entering the military academy at West Point—age, weight, height, number from each state and how often sent?"—P. A. D., Monroe, Iowa.

Appointees to the Military Academy must between 17 and 22, free from every physical infirmity, and able to pass a very severe examination in all the common branches and United States history. Each Congressional district is entitled to one cadet every four years. The Representative in Congress from each district has the appointing power. He may give it to whom he pleases, or award it by a competitive examination. Write to your Congressman and find out when next your district is entitled to an appointment.

The Wedding at Cana.

"Please state the names of the persons married when Christ and his mother were invited and He turned water into wine."—S. F. P., Taylorsville, Va.

Nothing more is known than the statement in the gospels. There are a swarm of legends about all these things, but they are utterly unworthy of credence, for they were invented centuries after Christ's death.

The Threshing Machine.

"In what year, where and by whom was the threshing machine invented? Was it run at first by horse power?"—J. P. B., Maroa, Ill.

Michael Menzies, of Scotland, is said to have invented the first machine for threshing. It was merely mechanism, driven by water power, for driving a large number of flails at once. In 1758 another Scotchman, named Leckie, invented a cylindrical machine, which was effective for oats, but not for wheat. In 1786, Andrew Meikle, also a Scotchman, improved Leckie's machine, which he ran either by horse or water power. He obtained a patent on it in 1788. He afterwards added a fan to clean the grain. The modern thresher is an evolution from his primitive machine.

Mardi Gras.

"What is the pronunciation and definition of Mardi Gras, and why celebrated in New Orleans and other cities of Louisiana?"—A. B., Cando, N. D.

Mardi Gras is pronounced "Mar-dee Grah." It is French. Mardi is the French name of Tuesday, and gras means "fat." Hence it is "Fat Tuesday." It is the day before Ash Wednesday, when Lent begins, and is celebrated in most Roman Catholic countries. The Italians call it the carnival, which means "farewell to meat," because the eating of meat is forbidden during Lent. The French call it Mardi Gras, in allusion to the feasting and revelry of the celebration. New Orleans was settled by French Catholics, and they have kept up the observance.

The President's Cabinet.

R. T., Blanchard, Iowa: President McKinley's Cabinet is now as follows: Secretary of State, John Hay; Treasury, Lyman J. Gage; War, Russell A. Alger; Attorney General, John W. Griggs; Postmaster General, Charles E. Smith; Secretary of Navy, John D. Long; Interior, Ethan A. Hitchcock; Agriculture, James Wilson.

Book MSS.

J. E. F., Fickle, Ind.: Book manuscripts are now generally typewritten, which is preferred on account of its legibility. Otherwise they are written with good black ink, never with pencil. There is no fixed price for manuscripts. An author of the first class can get thousands for a book manuscript, while an author who has his reputation yet to make often has to pay the cost of getting out the first edition in order to get it published at all.

Miscellaneous.

N. M. B., Delavan, Wis.: Juno was the "ox-eyed" goddess.

X. Y. Z., Judson, Ind.: We have not the data to answer.

L. P. B., Gays, Ill.: No, you are not entitled to land warrants.

S. S., Decorah, Iowa: Sorry we can not but we have not the data to answer.

O. A., Burdette, Pa.: Sorry to say we have lost track of them since hostilities ended.

C. O. S., Westland, O.: The correct form of stating a motion is, "I move," not "I move you."

J. V., Loveland, Colo.: It would take three columns of space to answer, and we can not spare it.

W. H. B., Neenah, Wis., asks how a box-couch is made. Will some reader who has made one tell us?

B. M., Pinckney, Mich.: The name is pronounced "Rah-mee-rayth," but we can not explain the picture.

B., Olivet, Iowa: Jeff Davis never had his political disabilities removed, nor did he ever ask that they should be.

A. S., Lima, O.: We have not a copy of the song, "Angels Ever Bright and Fair," but any music dealer can order it for you.

E. H. P., Jobs, O.: The name Muriel is pronounced Mew-ri-el, the i in the second syllable having the short sound, as in sit.

E. C. P., Henrietta, Wis.: No, there is no place on earth where the moon's rays are any more intense than we find them here.

J. C., Black River Falls, and others: We can not give rules for playing four-handed checkers, illustrated in the Weekly of Feb. 23, because we do not know them.

W. B., Sylvania, O.: Charles III, King of Spain and the Two Sicilies, reigned from 1759 to 1788. Carlos is the Spanish form of Charles, and Carolus is its Latin form.

W. H. B., Neenah, Wis.: We do not know what regiments are at Havana. A letter to a soldier should always have the name and number of his regiment in the address.

C. J. H., Diamond, Wash.: When a legal holiday falls on Sunday, the succeeding day is observed. There is no national holiday. All holidays are made by state laws, not by Congress.

G. H. M., Richmond, Ind.: The apprentice school for training boys to become sailors in the United States navy is at Newport, Rhode Island. Address a letter to the commandant.

F. M. L., Sugar Branch, Ind.: We are unable to say when trade discounts originated, but presume they were a development rendered necessary long ago in commercial transactions.

B. E., Pittsburg, Pa.: Sir Isaac Newton never made the statement. If any known comet should strike the sun, it would do no more damage than a walnut striking a moving railway train. The statement that the earth could be compressed into a nutshell is simply absurd.

L. D., Westcliff, Col.: To obtain a position in a military hospital, a man must enlist in the hospital corps of the United States army. Positions in ordinary hospitals (not military) are obtained by applying at the hospital. I knew nothing of the hospitals in New Mexico.

F. C. B., Dimondale, Mich.: For information about "Anglo-Saxon alliance," read the Weekly Blade of Feb. 23. See 4th page of that number, head of 2d column, "Not War, But Trade;" 5th column, same page, "Lord Charles Beresford's Mission;" 5th page, "Beresford's Views;" Question Bureau, 2d page, "International Alliances" and "Alliance With Great Britain."

Old Subscriber, Sterling Run, Pa.: A postmaster must distribute all mail matter properly addressed and postpaid, whether he sells stamps or not. But he is under no obligation to distribute circulars and other matter sent in bulk, without separate addresses. Every postmaster is expected to have a copy of the postal regulations. Refer to that.

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W. H. MAY, M. D., May Laboratory, 94 Pine Street, New York City.

Recent Literature.

Readers desiring any further information whatever about these volumes will please address the publishers, whose address is given in every case, and not inquire of The Blade. We do not deal in books.

A book addressed to the world of liberal thought which claims to rationally explain mysticism and scientifically substantiate it, and to elucidate occultism according to the modern methods of exact science, is entitled Harmonies of Evolution and published by the author, Mrs. Florence Huntley, of Chicago. The volume is further described upon the title page as The Philosophy of Individual Life, Based upon Natural Science, as Taught by Modern Masters of the Law. It is claimed to be the fruit of over eleven years of special instruction as a pupil of the oldest School of Science in existence. What that school is and where located is not explained.

She begins with a preliminary statement founded upon three propositions, which are these: There is no Death; Life After Physical Death is a fact scientifically demonstrable; and Life here and hereafter has a common development and a common purpose. Taking each proposition separately, she proceeds to lay down carefully and clearly the arguments designed to prove each one, supporting them by two lines of evidence the one direct, the other indirect.

This is the first volume of a series treating of the different phases of physical and spiritual evolution.

A book which should be carefully read by those who perceive that existing conditions and relations between the sexes have in them something radically wrong is one translated from the German of Karl Heingen, with the title, The Rights of Women and the Sexual Relations, published by Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago.

The first part, An Address to an Unknown Lady Reader, appeared in Boston a few years ago, but on the failure of its publisher was withdrawn from the market. It is now re-issued with a second part named Luise Meyen on Men and Women, which has never appeared before in England.

The whole makes up a plain discussion of matters which are usually left untouched except in works of fiction. The author's words are absolutely fearless, expressing what he thinks without reference to the prejudices or opinions of others.

Orchard Folk is the title of a volume containing two California stories told in a bright way by Elizabeth Winthrop Johnson, and published by the Continental Publishing Company of New York. They belong to the old days, just after the Mexican war, when conditions there were very different from what they are to-day. It was before the discovery of the gold mines, when "every merchant of the Atlantic States knew about the port of Las Delicias, in southern California, which is the scene of the first story."

The second story is Silvela of Dul-Zura, also a story of Southern California, which introduces some of the same characters the reader became acquainted with in The Delicians.

Last September The Blade gave a somewhat lengthy notice of a new historical novel entitled When Knighthood Was in Flower. It was a somewhat remarkable book and has challenged a good deal of attention from the critics,

CHARLES MAJOR.

as well as interest from the reading public. The last is shown by the statement from the publishers, Bowen-Merrill Company, of Indianapolis, that it has reached its twelfth edition.

The volume appeared over the name Edwin Caskoden, which was known to be a nom-de-plume. It has been announced that the author is a lawyer of Shelbyville, Ind., Mr. Charles Major by name, who has been for years making a study of history and literature. The story concerns itself with the love of Mary Tudor, sister of Henry VIII., for Charles Brandon, a courtier of the day. It is being dramatized for Julia Marlowe.

Other Mention.

White Dandy is a book written upon the same lines as Black Beauty, that is, it is a horse's own story told by himself. Perhaps there is no other book so unpretentious in style as Black Beauty which has been so widely sold, and which has done such great good in teaching kindness to animals, and White Dandy has the same purpose in view. The author, Velma Caldwell Melville, has told in a pleasing way Dandy's adventures, which are interwoven with the history of the Wallace family. The book, without exaggeration of any kind, shows the terrible brutality which is often exercised toward these poor animals who are such faithful servants to man. It pictures the cruelty of "docking," a thing only worthy of savages, and of many other customs to which familiarity has bred indifference. The volume is issued by the J. S. Ogilvie Publishing company, 57 Rose street, New York.

A collection of short essays has been published by J. B. Lippincott Company under the pretty title of Fireside Fancies. The author, Beulah C. Garretson, has given the world in this way no new thought, but has put into form every-day ideas so that the reader may find himself moved again to consider their bearing upon life.

Some of the subjects treated are Fireside Fancies; The Time is Now; Stability of Character; Adaptability; Individual Influence; True to One's Self; Friendship; Ambition; Books and People, and many others of this sort. As may be seen, she takes no lofty flight, but talks in a simple way of things belonging to every-day living. The volume is dedicated to the memory of the author's father and mother.

The spring announcements of Little, Brown & Co., contain many good things. Among them is a translation of Pastor Naudie's Young Wife, by the celebrated French author, M. Edouard Rod. This writer is not a Frenchman, as might appear, but he was born in Switzerland, near Geneva, was educated there and in Germany and became Professor of Foreign Literature in the University of Geneva in 1885. He has been a prolific writer, but is just becoming known this side of the water.

Another book from this house is The Miracles of Antichrist, by Selma Lagerlof, whose first book, The Story of Gosta Berling, was so well received. This one is said to be even better. It is translated by Mrs. Flack.

A translation of Victor Charbonnel's work La Volonte de Viore, by Miss E. Whitney is also mentioned as forthcoming. Its attraction will be greatly added to by an introduction from the pen of Lilian Whiting.

Books Received.

From Doubleday, McClure & Co.:

The Fight for Santiago. By Stephen Bonsal. $2.50; and

Through the Turf Smoke. By Seumas McManus (Mac). 75 cents.

The Key of the Holy House. By Albert Lee. D. Appleton & Co., New York. 50 cents.

Reveries of a Widow. By Teresa Dean. Town Topics Publishing company, New York.

From Houghton, Mifflin & Co.:

The Wire Cutters. By M. T. M. Davis. $1.50; and

A West Point Wooing and Other Stories. By Clara Louise Burnham. $1.25.

The Porto Rico of To-day. By Albert Gardner Robinson. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. $1.50.

BRILLIANTS

While yet one Lazarus lies without and thinks,
Tremble, O Dives! to thy purple feast
Let some strong shudder enter! While the least
Of these lies dying, drop the hand that drinks.
—Hannah Parker Kimball.

The path of sorrow,
And that path alone,
Leads to the land
Where sorrow is unknown;
No traveler ever
Reached that blest abode
Who found not thorns
And briers in his road.
—Cowper.

Though tuneless, stringless, it lies there in dust,
Like some great thought on a forgotten page.
The soul of music cannot fade or rust,
The voice within it stronger grows with age;
The strings and bow are only trifling things—
A master-touch! its great soul wakes and sings.
—Maurice Francis Egan.

Dark head, my darling, lie low, lie low,
Sponges make a bed for you, seaweed tangles grow
For a curtain for your bed, swaying to and fro.

Dark head, my darling, where dark grows the night for you,
Surely the sea-women make the long hours light for you,
Combing out their long, wild hair till the dark turns bright for you?

I was never fair, my dear, as sea-women are—
I'm content it you're content thus to sleep afar,
Where the dark's too deep to break for the evening star
—"Black and White."

The world was fair, and very fair;
Blue sky and sunshine everywhere,
But 'mid the flowering of the world
One little bud kept closely curled;
In vain the wooing sunshine smiled,
The little bud was not beguiled.

But when the night wept wild with rain
Upon the desolated plain,
Night, through her shadows, saw unclose
The petals of the hidden rose;
A rose of love, to scent the years —
Ah! turn and take it, through your tears!
—E. Nesbit.

LARKS.

All day in exquisite air
The song climb an invisible stair,
Flight on flight, story on story,
Into the dazzling glory.

There was no bird, only a singing,
Up in the glory, climbing and ringing,
Like a small golden cloud at even,
Trembling 'twixt earth and heaven.

I saw no staircase winding, winding,
Up in the dazzle, sapphire and blinding,
Yet round by round, in exquisite air,
The song went up the stair.
—Katherine Tynan.

March, April, May.

These Are the Months in Which to Purify Your Blood.

This is the season when your blood is loaded with impurities, accumulated during the winter months from close confinement, rich food, and other causes. These impurities must be driven from your system or they may breed serious disease and cause untold suffering. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the greatest and best blood purifying medicine it is possible to obtain. It is what the millions take in the spring. It will purify and enrich your blood, create an appetite, tone up your system, and give you sound, robust health.

VICTORIA'S BEAR TAMER.

The Queen Gratifies Her Grandchildren and Creates a New Title.

During the recent visit of Queen Victoria to Balmoral, says the Chronik der Zeit, the queen was taking a drive with her grandsons, the young princes of Battenberg, when, nearing the gates of the park, they beheld a bear tamer with a huge animal standing in the road, evidently waiting for the approach of the royal carriage.

Persuaded by the children, the queen ordered the carriage stopped and watched with much pleasure the performance of the bear. She sent the footman with a sovereign to hand to the tamer, who refused to accept the money, and asked if her majesty would condescend to give him some sort of a note as a proof that his bear had had the distinguished honor of having danced before the gracious eyes of her majesty.

The queen hesitated to grant this rather impudent request, but the children prevailed upon her to accede to the tamer's wish.

"Why not do it?" argued little Prince Henry. "Was there not a horse made consul in Rome?"

"Well, tell me the name of the emperor who committed such folly," said the queen, "and the bear shall gain recognition."

The prince named Caligula without the slightest hesitation.

The same evening a letter bearing the royal seal was delivered to the bear tamer, in which the title "Bear Leader of Her Majesty the Queen of England and Ireland, Empress of India," was conferred upon the happiest of animal teachers.

An Explanation.

"Are you European governments as anxious for peace and fraternity as you pretend to be?" asked the tourist.

"Certainly," answered the diplomat.

"Then why are you making all these preparations to fight?"

"Well, you know it's a well-established trait of human nature that after people have fought and made up they get friendlier than ever. And we nations are too friendly to lose any chance of becoming more so."—Washington Star.

Vaudevillainy.

"George Washington," said the gentleman with the green whiskers, "was buried standing."

"And for why was George Washington buried standing?" said the gentleman in the bald wig.

"Because," said the gentleman with the green whiskers, "they knew not how to make him lie!"

(By the orchestra: "Um-tiddy-um-tum; um-tum-tum!")—Indianapolis Journal.

Those Loving Women.

Ethel—I've been engaged six times, and now I'm going to marry Charlie Simpson. How many times have you been engaged?

Maude (demurely)—Only twice—to Charlie Simpson.—Tit-Bits.

"Misfortunes Never Come Singly."

It is said that ninety-five out of every hundred business men meet misfortune at some stage in their lives; some recover and some do not. If the remedy in business life were as easily found as in the ills that beset humanity, there would not be as much misfortune.

In the latter case, multitudes when attacked by rheumatism, scrofula and other diseases, flee for protection to Hood's Sarsaparilla, and they find there a sovereign and specific remedy for troubles of the kidneys, liver and bowels. *It never disappoints.*

Liver and Kidneys—"My mother was very sick with congestion of the liver and kidney trouble. Nothing helped her until we got Hood's Sarsaparilla, which showed its effects with first dose. She is well and hearty." MRS. D. A. STONE, Winthrop, Me.

Run Down—"I was weak, had no appetite, nervous and completely run down. Tried many remedies but nothing helped me until I used Hood's Sarsaparilla which cured me." FELIX MAS. WM. MARKS, 27 Henry St., Binghamton, N. Y.

Gastritis—"Nervousness caused by a fright made my wife suffer intensely from gastritis. Morphine was necessary to relieve the suffering. Hood's Sarsaparilla and Hood's Pills were tried after all else failed and in four days she improved and in 14 days she was cured." C. W. T. SCHMIDT, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Dyspepsia—"I suffered for 20 years with dyspepsia. Dared not eat meat, new bread or vegetables. Went hungry for fear of distress. Felt despondent and distressed. Took Hood's Sarsaparilla and got relief immediately. Can eat most anything without discomfort." MRS. EMILY F. BUMP, Middleboro, Mass.

Dizzy Spells—"After the measles my daughter had dizzy spells, which we thought would pass off but they did not until we gave her Hood's Sarsaparilla. In five days they disappeared and in one month she regained her usual health." B. H. KAMPERBECK, 53 Graves Place, Holland, Mich.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Never Disappoints

Hood's Pills cure liver ills, the non-irritating and only cathartic to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

The Farmstead.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Steers Stiff.

P. L. H., Indiana:—Your steers are suffering from indigestion and rheumatism. The cold water which they no doubt drank to excess, arrested digestion. Cattle fed too freely on dry hay or straw, drink freely, and taking too much water a form of colic results. If care is not taken in housing, rheumatism will set in. In case of humping up after drinking, give half a pint of whisky in which a teaspoonful of ginger is stirred. This must be put in a pint of warm water and given as a drench. For rheumatism give: Oil of turpentine, 1 oz.; bicarbonate of soda, 1 oz., in a pint of gruel, every other day for three days. The steers must be kept in a dry, comfortable place, free from draughts of air. If bowels are constipated, give bran mashes until they work naturally.

Lump On Cow's Jaw.

Ed. F., Missouri:—The lump on your cow's jaw is actinomycosis, and if the case has not run too long, the iodide of potassium should have cured her. The parisite by rapidly producing itself may extend into the bony tissues, when the services of a veterinarian become necessary. As there is now an external opening, injections of tincture of iodine should be made. When there is no external opening, incisions should be made through the skin covering the swelling, and portions of the outer plate of the jaw bone should be removed with a trephine, and tincture of iodine injected. Swelling may result from a decayed tooth, which, if removed, will cause relief and cure. In some cases of actinomycosis, a cure will not result under any treatment. Nearly all cases will yield to iodide of potassium or tincture of iodine, if the jaw is not involved.

Sows Drop Pigs.

W. N. D., Kansas: When a sow is in the habit of dropping her pigs before the proper period for farrowing (the period of gestation is almost invariably 16 weeks), the best thing to be done is to fatten her for market. Sows near farrowing time may suffer from constipation. If this occurs, feed loss dry food; give more succulent food and a few bran mashes. A sow may drop her pigs before the regular time of farrowing if kept too fat or fed on food that is rich or stimulating. The pen must be kept scrupulously clean, and new dry straw placed in her pen three or four days before the time for the pigs to arrive.

Enlargement On Colt's Hind Legs.

J. H. B., Delaware: Young colts that are large and heavy for their age may be affected with bog sprain and thoroughpin. For your six months' old colt bathe the parts once a day with warm water, dry well, and for a few days bathe with vinegar 1 quart, saltpetre, 1 oz. The hocks may be wrapped. Rub the puffs with your hand frequently. After using the above, rub in once a day for three or four days the following: Tincture of iodine, 1½ ozs.; aqua ammonia, ½ oz.; oil of turpentine, ½ oz.; glycerine, 1½ ozs. Omit the treatment after three or four days, and re-apply in two weeks. If the parts show soreness, stop application, and heal with unsalted lard.

Defect in Front Teats.

W. W., Tennessee: The teats of your cow may be made to perform their natural functions by using a milking tube; or, if you cannot get these, take a small piece of whalebone or hard wood. Cut down until they are just sufficiently large to open the teat a little. The whalebone or wood should have a knob on it, so that it will not enter the teats. Insert this, but be careful not to make the whalebone work so long that it will touch the udder. In a little time the opening will become permanently enlarged. If the teats are simply clogged, inject a teaspoonful of salaratus, stirred in half a pint of warm water.

Sawdust as Manure.

R. M. R., Pennsylvania: Sawdust is of little value as a manure. On clay land it will help loosen the soil, but it has no valuable property and may do more harm than good. The editor cannot advise you to use it.

Horse Discharges From Mouth and Nostrils.

B. F., Tennessee: Your horse is suffering from nasal gleet. Cut the bottom out of a bag. Place one end over a bucket half full of bran, pour scalding hot water on the bran and stir it quickly. Put the other end of the bag over the horse's nose and let him inhale the fumes from the bran. Then take the bran away and bury it in the ground. Clean out the nostrils of your horse, wipe dry and give him this: Sulphate of copper, 1 drachm; nitre, 1 drachm; powdered gentian, 1 drachm. Make into a ball with linseed meal, and give the above amount night and morning for a week.

Horse Has Indigestion.

W. R. I., Ohio: Give your horse 15 ozs. row linseed oil. After this operates, give him this: Baking soda, powdered ginger and powdered gential, equal parts. Mix and give in heaping tablespoonful doses twice a day in half a pint of water, as a drench. Make sufficient to last for five or six days. Feed no corn for two weeks and give good sweet hay and oats.

Legs Swollen From Hock to Hoof.

J. W. M., Kansas: After the first three months have passed, the growth of ringbone, either high or low, is complete and quite irreducible. The editor does not know the ingredients of the application you used, but if it was used three months after the ringbone was discovered it was irritating, and may have caused the eruptions of which you speak. The legs may be permanently enlarged. Wash the legs with warm water and soap, dry well, and wrap with soft muslin. If the eruptions appear again, sprinkle with wheat flour 3 parts; pulverized rosin 1 part, and pulverized alum 1 part. Apply once a day in the morning, wash with warm water and soap the next morning, dry well and re-apply. Give the animal once a day for four days 1 oz. pulverized saltpetre in drinking water.

Cow Staggers—Skin Dry.

I. H., Ohio: As your cow was fresh a month ago, and has staggers and dry skin now, you should be sure that she cleaned properly. If so give the cow this: Sulphate or iron, 3 drachms; gentian, 3 drachms; ginger, 2 drachm, fenugreek seed, 1 drachm. Mix well, and give as a dose morning and night for two weeks. If bowels are constipated give bran mashes until they work naturally.

Best Food for Young Calves.

G. H., of Minnesota, asks: What's the best food for young calves, when there is not enough milk? Is hay too good? As this is a more than usually important question, the editor will be pleased to hear from any one who can give the information. The editor has never asked readers of the Farmstead for answers to questions unless they were of more than usual interest, and has never failed to receive satisfactory replies. Let us hear from you, friends.

Small Lumps in Front Teats.

F. W., Wisconsin: If the lumps are clotted milk, inject with a small syringe or sewing machine can, the following: A teaspoonful of saleratus dissolved in half a pint of warm water. If the lumps are small growths in the teats, a small wire sharpened at the end may be inserted in the teats and the obstruction cut away. Cut one way, turn the wire, and cut again. Be careful not to put the wire up into the udder.

Wind Puff On Horse's Knee.

J. D. B., Kentucky: Cut the hair away over the puff, and rub in a little of this for about five days: Red iodide of mercury, 1 drachm; lard, 2 ozs. This should be applied once a day, washing off before each application with warm water and soap and drying well. Wrap the knee with a soft bandage.

Sweet Milk Cheese.

L. A. M., Tennessee, wishes to know the best method of making sweet milk cheese. As this is a question that should have answers from several of the Farmstead family, the editor wishes to know who will answer first.

Hog Has Rheumatism.

J. S. B., West Virginia: Your hog has rheumatism, which is difficult to cure. The remedy is to give 1 oz. Epsom salts in soft feed every other day for two days. Feed no corn for a week, and keep the animal in warm quarters where the cool air will not strike the hog. The editor's advice is, that while the hog is in good condition kill it and get the cash for it, as it may soon lose flesh and become a loss to you. Break-down in hogs is frequent, and the first thing to do is to kill them and put them upon the market before they go backward. The flesh is good.

Do Not Send Stamps.

As the editor is a very busy man, he cannot undertake to answer questions by letter. He therefore requests the members of The Blade Farmstead not to send him stamps, as it would be impossible for him to write. He is always pleased to answer all questions of which he has a knowledge through The Blade.

Mare's Legs Swollen.

J. M. M., Kansas:—Give your mare this diuretic mass: Venice turpentine, 1½ ozs.; oil of juniper, 2 drachms; powdered rosin, 4½ ozs.; nitre, 3 ozs.; hard, dried soap, 3 ozs. Melt the rosin, soap and turpentine together, and when cooling stir in the juniper and nitre. Make into 12 boluses, and give one night and morning. Hand rub the legs and wrap with soft muslin while in the stable. After all of the stiffness continues, give this: Nux vomica, ½ oz.; pulverized gentian root, 1½ oz.; pulverized ginger, 1 oz. Mix and divide into 12 powders. Give one every night in the feed.

Apoplexy in Pigs.

E. M. C., Michigan: The five pigs, of which you speak, died of apoplexy. This disease is superinduced by too free feeding. The animals become plethoric, and the result is congestion of the brain. The animal is at first stupid, and the pulse is hard and quick. The symptoms may pass off, or they make take a violent form. As the pressure on the brain increases, the animal will run to and fro in a circle, hitting against anything in the way, or jumping up and pawing with its feet. It finally falls in an unconscious condition, and expires. In some cases the animal will fall as if struck by a hammer, the breathing is hard, and froth exudes from the mouth. The treatment is to dash cold water on the animal, and especially pouring it from a height of 8 or 10 feet on the head. The bowels should be opened with an active purgative injection, as sulphate of magnesia, 4 ozs.; oil of turpentine, 2 drachms; soapsuds, ½ pint. Mix and inject. The other pigs that were not affected were not kept exempt by anything they did. It was simply their good fortune and could not be traceable to any shifting of location. Rye is not a good steady feed for pigs. Cooked food should be made only in quantity sufficient to be eaten at a feed, as it sours if kept, and causes disease. Your description was a very intelligent one. Be careful not to give pigs or hogs more than they will clean up well every time they are fed. Overfeeding is a great cause of apoplexy.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Poultry Pointers.

A Western poultry buyer keeps all the poorly fattened turkeys he takes in and finishes them, making them as fat as he can. These, he says are the ones he makes the most money on, as they bring the best price. This buyer says farmers should fatten turkeys as they would pigs before offering them for sale. This is also true of other kinds of poultry.

It would be a paying investment on the farm to devote an acre to growing special poultry feeding stuffs. Millet, Kaffir corn, sunflowers and popcorn could be grown on such a patch and supply enough grain for a large flock of poultry at a low cost.

Millet is one of the best feeds for poultry, old and young, and is especially valuable for young chickens. It will pay a farmer to sow a small patch of millet, especially so as to have the seed for his hens.

Kaffir corn is a good feed for chickens of all ages. It yields about forty bushels of seed to the acre and is as easily grown as corn. The slaks make good rough feed for cattle after the heads are cut off.

It is a mistake to be constantly feeding poultry something to ward off disease. The best preventatives are wholesome feed and clean quarters with plenty of sunshine.

When selecting breeding stock choose hens more than one year old. Chicks from such hens are hardier and grow faster than those hatched from the eggs of pullets.

Sell the young geese and keep the old ones for breeders. A goose is best for breeding after two years old and may be kept at it for several years.

As a rule the eggs first produced by ducks do not hatch as well as those produced later in the season.

Beeswax.

Though it is a simple matter to melt combs into wax, still very few can do so properly. All books treating on bee culture give directions for this, but I have utterly failed with all their ways. I have never been able to get wax fit to clean a smoothing iron when melted in water. I do not say wax can not be melted so, but I do know of a much better method, which I will give. I put enough combs into a tin pail, or something that can be set on the stove, to make a little over a pound of wax when melted. The dry combs or bits of wax are then melted and strained into a vessel that has an inch or two of water, to keep the wax from sticking. When cool melt again and pour direct into whatever you intend to mold it in. If the vessel is too big around, the wax will crack while cooling. If the vessel be greased slightly with tallow the wax may be removed much easier when cool. If the wax is not left on the stove too long after it is melted, and if it is well strained at the first melting it will, when cool, be of a beautiful light yellow. I might add that I only melt up the scrapings from frames and bits of refuse wax. A straight combs three or four inches square or over, are tied into frames and saved. I think all who try the above "dry method" of melting beeswax will meet it a water no more.—L. E. Kerr, in Agricultural Epitomist.

Specialty Farming.

Specialty farming means devoting the larger part of the time to the production of one crop. This crop may be wheat, corn or cotton, and there are large sections in this country devoted almost wholly to one or another of these crops, says Farmers' Voice. One year's failure of the special crop of any of these sections means serious inconvenience to farmers, and a failure for two or more successive years is ruin. From the orange groves of Florida and the cane lands of Louisiana to the wheat fields of North Dakota the specialty farmer is liable to work without profit because of barren years or low prices. It is true that each section is better for some one crop than for any other, and it is good policy to devote a considerable part of the time and the farm to that crop. The good farmer will endeavor to learn which crop is the most profitable, and that having been settled he will learn something concerning every other crop which he can grow, in order that he may diversify his productions as much as possible.

Specialty farming is always destructive farming, as it makes a rotation of crops impossible and draws constantly on the fertility of the soil without permitting renovation except by the direct application of fertilizers, a costly way of maintaining fertility, no matter what is used for that purpose.

The farmer who plants a variety of crops, keeps sheep, cattle and hogs, and takes care of everything, is always ready for any season or any peculiar condition of the markets. He may not have any especial fat years but he will never have total loss to contend with and on the whole will have greater profits and fewer losses.

THE GRIP CURE THAT DOES CURE.

Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets removes the cause that produces La Grippe. The genuine has L. B. Q. on each Tablet. 25c

As She Expressed It.

"Yes," said the lady from Boston, speaking of her favorite lecturer, "he is one whom the laity would designate as a biscuitjohn."

"Beg pardon?" said the member of the laity.

"Oh, to be explicit, a crackerjack."—Indianapolis Journal.

Doctor Knapp's Offer.

Dr. L. W. Knapp, the greatest living specialist, who has cured thousands of men of lost manhood, lack of vigor, failing memory, night losses and other consequences of youthful ignorance or other causes, now intends to give free to every sufferer his entire formula, so that each despairing man may cure himself at home and thus obtain the grand result of having the organs restored to perfect manly strength and vigor.

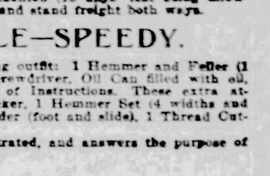
Dr. Knapp is comparatively a young man, but has reached the highest pinnacle of eminence, and now proposes that all suffering men shall share with him free the knowledge he has labored so many years to attain. This is noble generosity. It would be well if other doctors would emulate the example of this great specialist, as the condition of mankind would be greatly improved thereby.

It is to be hoped that no one will take up the doctor's time unless he is sincere in his desire to use the formula.

Send your name and address to L. W. Knapp, M. D., 1219 Hull Building, Detroit, Mich., stating you are not writing out of idle curiosity but wish to use the formula by giving it a trial. He will generously write to you promptly by mail and use a perfectly plain, sealed envelope.

Write to the doctor to-day.

SEND ONE DOLLAR CUT THIS AD OUT and send to us, and if you live within 100 miles of Chicago, we will send you this TOP BUGGY by freight, C. O. D., subject to examination. If on examination it is your freight depot, and if found PERFECTLY SATISFACTORY, EXACTLY AS REPRESENTED, EQUAL TO BUGGIES THAT RETAIL AT $60.00 OR $75.00 and the GRANDEST BARGAIN YOU EVER SAW, pay the freight agent OUR SPECIAL PRICE, $38.90, and freight charges, less the $1.00 sent with order.



$38.90

WE MAKE THIS TOP BUGGY IN OUR OWN FACTORY IN CHICAGO, and use better material than most makers put in $75.00 buggies. Latest style for 1899. Body, 24x58 from the floor to extend work. Gear, Best That Money Can Build. Red Springs, as illustrated, or Brewster Side Bar. Wheels, High Grade Screwed Rim Sarven's Patent. Top, Genuine Daisy Rubber Neatly lined, full width and back curtains. Painting, genuine Coach Japan to any $100.00 buggy work. Body black. Gear, dark green or Red. Upholstering, heavy green French body cloth or Evan's Leather.

$38.90 IS OUR SPECIAL PRICE for the heavy, complete, wide or narrow track, full length side and back curtains, shafts or poles, carpets, wrench, oil-can and whip. GUARANTEED TWO YEARS will last a lifetime. For Buggies at $41.50 and up, WRITE FOR FREE BUGGY CATALOGUE. YOU CAN MAKE $500.00 THIS YEAR SELLING OUR $38.90 BUGGIES. ORDER ONE TO-DAY. YOU CAN SAVE UPON $50.00. DON'T DELAY.

Address, SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO.

Calmage's Sermon.

BUNDLE OF LIFE.

Dr. Talmage, Under a Familiar Figure, Draws a Great Lesson.

Under the familiar image of a bundle, Dr. Talmage shows in his sermon the things which go to make up man's earthly and heavenly life. Text, I Samuel, xxv. 29: "The soul of my Lord shall be bound in the bundle of life with the Lord thy God."

Beautiful Abigail, in her rhythmic plea for the rescue of her inebriate husband, who died within ten days, addresses David, the warrior, in the words of the text. She suggests that his life, physically and intellectually and spiritually, is a valuable package or bundle, divinely bound up and to be divinely protected.

That phrase "bundle of life" I heard many times in my father's family prayers. Family prayers, you know, have frequent repetitions, because day by day they acknowledge about the same blessings, and deplore about the same frailties, and sympathize with about the same misfortunes, and I do not know why those who lead at household devotions should seek variety of composition. That family prayer becomes the household liturgy. I would not give one of my old father's prayers for fifty elocutionary supplications. Again and again, in the morning and evening prayer, I heard the request that we might all be bound up in the bundle of life, but I did not know until a few days ago that the phrase was a Bible phrase.

Now, the more I think of it the better I like it. Bundle of life! It is such a simple and unpretending, yet expressive comparison. There is nothing like grandiloquence in the Scriptures. While there are many sublime passages in Holy Writ, there are more passages homely and drawing illustrations from common observation and everyday life. In Christ's great sermons you hear a hen clucking her chickens together, and see the photographs of hypocrites with a sad countenance, and hear of the grass of the field, and the black crows, which our heavenly Father feeds, and the salt that is worthless, and the precious stones flung under the feet of swine, and the shifting sand that lets down the house with a great crash, and hear the comparison of the text, the most unpoetical thing we can think of—a bundle. Ordinarily it is something tossed about, something thrown under the table, something that suggests garrets, or something on the shoulder of a poor wayfarer. But there are bundles of great value, bundles put up with great caution, bundles, the loss of which means consternation and despair, and there have been bundles representing the worth of a kingdom.

During the last spell of cold weather there were bundles that attracted the attention and the plaudits of the high heavens, bundles of clothing on the way from comfortable homes to the door of the mission room, and Christ stood in the snow banks and said, as the bundles passed: "Naked, and ye clothed me. Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Those bundles are multiplying. Blessings on those who pack them. Blessings on those who distribute them. Blessings on those who receive them.

With what beautiful aptitude did Abigail, in my text, speak of the bundle of life! Oh, what a precious bundle is life! Bundle of memories, bundle of hopes, bundle of ambitions, bundle of destinies! Once in a while a man writes his autobiography, and it is of thrilling interest. The story of his birthplace, the story of his struggles, the story of his sufferings, the story of his triumphs! But if the autobiography of the most eventful life were well written, it would make many chapters of adventure, of tragedy, of comedy, and there would not be an uninteresting step from the cradle to the grave.

Bundle of memories are you! Boyhood memories—with all its injustices from playmates, with all its games with ball and bat and kite and sled. Manhood memories, with all your struggles in starting—obstacles, opposition, accidents, misfortunes, losses, successes. Memories of the first marriage you ever saw solemnized; of the first grave you ever saw opened; of the first mighty wrong you ever suffered; of the first victory you ever gained! Memory of the hour when you were affianced; memory of the first advent in your home; memory of the roseate cheek faded and of blue eyes closed in the last sleep; memory of anthem and dirge; memory of great pain and of slow convalescence; memory of times when all things were against you; memory of prosperities that came in like the full tide of the sea; memories of a lifetime! What a bundle!

I lift the bundle to-day and unloose the cord that binds it, and for a moment you look in and see the tears, and smiles, and laughter, and groans, and noondays and midnights of experience; and then I tie again the bundle with heartstrings that have some time vibrated with joy and anon been thrummed by fingers of woe.

Bundle of hopes, and ambitions also, is almost every man and woman, especially at the starting. What gains he will harvest, or what reputation he will achieve, or what bliss he will reach, or what love he will win. What makes college commencement day so entrancing to all of us as we see the students receive their diplomas and take up the garlands thrown to their feet? They will be Faradays in science; they will be Tennysons in poesy; they will be Willard Parkers in surgery; they will be Alexander Hamiltons in national finance; they will be Horace Greeleys in editorial chairs; they will be Websters in the senate! Or she will be a Mary Lyon in educational realms; or a Frances Willard on reformatory platform; or a Helen Gould in military hospitals. Or she will make home life radiant with helpfulness, and self-sacrifice, and magnificent womanhood. Oh, what a bundle of hopes and ambitions! It is a bundle of garlands and scepters from which I would not take one sprig of mignonette nor extinguish one spark of brilliance. They who start life without bright hopes and inspiring ambitions, might as well not start at all, for every step will be a failure. Rather would I add to the bundle, and if I open it now it will not be because I wish to take anything from it, but that I may put into it more coronets and hosannas.

Bundle of faculties in every man and every woman! Power to think—to think of the past and through all the future; to think upwards and higher than the highest pinnacle of heaven, or to think downward until there is no lower abysm to fathom. Power to think, right, power to think wrong, power to think forever; for, once having begun to think, there shall be no terminus for that exercise, and eternity itself shall have no power to bid it halt. Faculties to love—filial love, conjugal love, paternal love, material love, love of country, love of God. Faculty of judgment, with scales so delicate and yet so mighty they can weigh arguments, weigh emotions, weigh worlds, weigh heaven and hell. Faculty of will, that can climb mountains or tunnel them, wade seas or bridge them, accepting eternal enthronement or enduring everlasting exile. Oh, what it is to be a man! Oh, what it is to be a woman! Sublime and infinite bundle of faculties. That bought of it staggers me, swamps me, stuns me bewilders me, overwhelms me. Oh, what a bundle of life Abigail of my text saw in David, and which we ought to see in every human, yet immortal, being.

Know, also, that this bundle of life was put up with great care. Any merchant and almost any faithful householder will tell you how much depends on the way a bundle is bound. The cord or rope must be strong enough to hold; the knot must be well tied. You know not what rough hands may toss that bundle. If not properly put together, though it may leave your hands in good order and symmetrical, before it reaches its proper destination it may be loosened in fragments for the winds to scatter or the rail train to lose.

Now, I have to tell you that this bundle of life is well put together—the body, the mind, the soul. Who but the Omnipotent God could bind such a bundle? Anatomists, physiologists, physicists, logicians, metaphysicians, declare that we are fearfully and wonderfully made. That we are a bundle well put together I prove by the amount of journeying we can endure without damage, by the amount of rough handling we can survive, by the fact that the vast majority of us go through life without the loss of an eye, or the crippling of a limb, or the destruction of a single energy of body or faculty of mind. I subpoena for this trial that man in yonder view seventy or eighty years of age, and ask him to testify that after all the storms, and accidents, and vicissitudes of a long life he still keeps his five senses; and though all the lighthouses as old as he is have been reconstructed or new lanterns put in, h has in under his forehead the same two lanterns with which God started him; and though the locomotives of sixty years ago were long ago sold for old iron, he has the original powers of locomotion in the limbs with which God started him; and though all the electric wires that carried messages twenty-five years ago have been torn down, his nerves bring messages from all parts of his body as well as when God strung them seventy-five years ago. Was there ever such a complete bundle put together as the human being? What a factory! What an engine! What a mill race! What a lighthouse! What a locomotive! What an electric battery! What a furnace! What a masterpiece of the Lord God Almighty! Or, to employ the anti-climax and use the figure of the text, what a bundle!

Know, also, that this bundle of life is properly directed. Many a bundle has missed its way and disappeared because the address has dropped, and no one can find by examination for what city or town or neighborhood it was intended. All great carrying companies have so many misdirected packages that they appoint days of vendue to dispose of them. All intelligent people know the importance of having a valuable package plainly directed, the name of the one to whom it is to go plainly written. Baggagemaster and expressman ought to know at the first glance to whom to take it.

This bundle of life that Abigail in my text speaks of is plainly addressed. By divine penmanship it is directed heavenward. However long may be the earthly distance it travels, its destination is the external city of God on high. Every mile it goes away from that direction is by some human or infernal fraud practiced against it. There are those who put it on some other track, who misplace it in some wrong conveyance, who send it off or send it back by some diabolic miscarriage. The value of that bundle is so well known up and down the universe that there are a million dishonest hands which are trying to detain, or divert it, or to forever stop its progress in the right direction. There are so many influences abroad to ruin your body, mind and soul, that my wonder is not that so many are destroyed for this world and the next, but that there are not more who go down irremediably.

Every human being is assailed at the start. Within an hour of the time when this bundle of life is made up the assault begins. First of all, there are the infantile disorders that threaten the body just launched upon earthly existence. Scarlet fevers, and pneumonias, and diphtherias, and influenzas, and the whole pack of epidemics surround the cradle and threaten its occupant; and infant Moses in the ark of bulrushes was not more imperiled by the monsters of the Nile than every cradle is imperiled by ailments all-devouring. In after years there are foes within and foes without. Evil appetite joined by outside allurements. Temptations that have utterly destroyed more people than now inhabit the earth. Gambling saloons, and gymnasiums, and places where dissoluteness reigns supreme, enough in number to go round, and round, and round the earth. Discouragements, jealousies, revenges, malevolences, disappointments, swindles, arsons, conflagrations, and cruelties which make continued existence of the human race a wonderment. Was any valuable bundle ever so imperiled as this bundle of life? O look at the address, and get that bundle going in the right way! "Then shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and soul, and mind, and strength." Heaven with its twelve gates standing wide open with invitation. All the forces of the Godhead pledged for our heavenly arrival if we will do the right thing. All angeldom ready for our advance and guidance. All the lightnings of heaven so many drawn swords for our protection. What a pity, what an everlasting pity, if this bundle of life, so well bound and so plainly directed, does not come out at the right station, but becomes a lost bundle, cast out amid the rubbish of the universe!

Know, also, that a bundle may have in it more than one invaluable. There may be in it a photograph of a loved one and a jewel for a carcanet. It may contain an embroidered robe and a Dore's illustrated Bible. A bundle may have two measures. Abigail, in my text, recognized this when she said to David: "The soul of my Lord is bound in the bundle of life with the Lord thy God," and Abigail was right. We may be bound up with a loving and sympathetic God. We may be as near to him as ever were emerald and ruby united in one ring, as ever were two deeds in one package, as ever were two vases on the same shelf, as ever were two valuables in the same bundle. Together in time of sorrow.

Together in time of joy. Together on earth. Together in heaven. Close companionship of God. Hear him: "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." "For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed, but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee." And when those Bible authors compared God's friendship to the mountains for height and firmness, they knew what they were writing about, for they well knew what mountains are. All those lands are mountainous. Mount Hermon, Mount Gilboa, Mount Gerizim, Mount Engedi, Mount Horeb, Mount Nebo, Mount Pisgah, Mount Olivet, Mount Zion, Mount Moriah, Mount Lebanon, Mount Sinai, Mount Golgotha. Yes, we have the divine promise that all those mountains shall weigh their anchorage of rocks and move away from the earth before a loving and sympathetic God will move away from us if we love and trust him. O, if we could realize that according to my text we may be bound up with that God, how independent it would make us of things that now harass, and annoy, and discompose, and being a burden, a world of care would be as light as a feather, and tombstones would be marble stairs to the king's palace, and all the giants of opposition we would smite down hip and thigh with great slaughter.

A God away up in the heavens is not much consolation to us when we get into life's struggle. It is a God close by, as near to us as any two articles of apparel were near to each other in that bundle that you sent the other day to that shivering home, through whose roof the snow sifted and through whose broken window pane the night winds howled. It was sanctified irony and holy sarcasm that Elijah used when he told the idolaters of Baal to pray louder, saying that their god might be asleep, or on a journey, or gone a hunting; but our God is always wide awake, and always hears, and is always close by, and to him a whisper of prayer is as loud as an archangel's trumpet, and a child's "Now I lay me down to sleep," is as easily heard by him as the prayer of the great Scotchman amid the highlands when pursued by Lord Claverhouse's miscreants. The covenanter said: "O, Lord, cast the lap of thy cloak about these children of the covenant," and a mountain fog instantly hid the pursued from their bloodthirsty pursuers. I proclaim him a God close by. When we are tempted to do wrong, when we have questions of livelihood too much for us, when we put our darlings into their last sleep, when we are overwhelmed with physical distresses, when we are perplexed about what to do with the coming into contact with the king of terrors, we want a God close by. How do you like the doctrine of the text: "Bound in the bundle of life with the Lord thy God?" Thank you, Abigail, kneeling there at the foot of the mountain, uttering consolation for all ages, while addressing David. No wonder that in after time he invited her to the palace and put her upon the throne of his heart as well as upon the throne of Judah.

Know also that this bundle of life will be gladly received when it comes to the door of the mansion for which it was bound and plainly directed. With what alacrity and glee we await some package that has been foretold by letter; some holiday presentation; something that will enrich and ornament our home; some testimony of admiration and affection! With what glow of expectation we untie the knot and take off the cord that held it together and guess and guess the first time! And what exclamation we unroll the covering and see the gift or purchase in all its beauty of color and proportion. Well, what a day it will be when your precious bundle of life shall be opened in the "House of Many Mansions," amid saintly and angelic and divine inspection! The bundle may be spotted with the marks of much exposure; it may bear inscription after inscription to tell through what ordeal it has passed; perhaps splashed of wave and scorched of flame, but all it has within undamaged of the journey. And with what shouts of joy the bundle of life will be greeted by all the voices of the heavenly home circle!

In our anxiety at last to reach heaven we are apt to lose sight of the glee or welcome that awaits us if we get in at all. We all have friends up there. They will somehow hear that we are coming. Such close and swift and constant communication there is there between those uplands and these lowlands that we will not surprise them by sudden arrival. If loved ones on earth expect our coming visit, and are at the depot with carriage to meet us, surely we will be met at the shining gate by old friends now sainted and kindred now glorified. If there were no angel of God to meet us and show us the palaces, and guide us to our everlasting residence, these kindred would show us the way and point out the splendors and guide us to our celestial home, bowered, and fountained, and arched, and illumined by a sun that never sets. Will it not be glorious, the going in and the settling down after all the moving about and upsettings of earthly experience. We will soon know all our neighbors, kingly, queenly, prophetic, apostolic, seraphic archangelic. The precious bundle of life opened amid palaces, and grand marches, and acclamations. They will all be so glad we have got safely through. They saw us down here in the struggle. They saw us when we lost our way. They knew when we got off the right course. None of the thirty-two ships that were overdue at New York harbor in the storm of week before last were greeted so heartily by friends on the dock or the steam tugs that went out to meet them at Sandy Hook, as we will be greeted in the heavenly world, if by the pardoning and protecting grace of God we come to celestial wharfage. We shall have to tell them of the many wrecks that we have passed on the way across wild seas, and amid Caribbean cyclones. It will be like our arrival some years ago from New Zealand at Sydney, Australia; people surprised that we got in at all, because we were two days late, and some of the ships expected had gone to the bottom, and we had passed derelicts and abandoned crafts all up and down that awful channel—our arrival in heaven all the more rapturously welcomed, because of the doubt as to whether we would ever get there at all.

Once there it will be found that the safety of that precious bundle of life was assured, because it was bound up with the life of God in Jesus Christ. Heaven could not afford to have a bundle lost, because it had been said in regard to its transportation and safe arrival: "Keep by the power of God through faith unto complete salvation." The veracity of the heavens is involved in its arrival. If God should fail to keep his promise to just one ransomed soul the pillars of Jehovah's throne would fall, and the foundations of the eternal city would crumble, and infinite poverties would dash down all the chalices and close all the banqueting halls, and the river of life would change its course, sweeping everything with desolation, and frost would blast all the gardens, and immeasurable sickness slay the immortals, and the new Jerusalem become an abandoned city with no chariot wheels on the street and no worshipers in the temple—dead Pompeii of the skies, a buried Herculaneum of the heavens. Lest any one should doubt, the God who can not lie smites his omnipotent hand on the side of his throne, and takes affidavit, declaring: "As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in him that dieth." Oh, I can not tell you how I feel about it. The thought is so glorious. Bound up with God, bound up with infinite mercy. Bound up with infinite purity. Bound up with infinite might. That thought is more beautiful and glorious than was the heroic Abigail, who, at the foot of the crags uttered it—"Bound in the bundle of life with the Lord thy God!"

Now, my hearer and reader, appreciate the value of that bundle. See that it is bound up with nothing mean, but with the unsullied and the immaculate. Not with a pebble of the shifting beach, but with the kohinoor of the palace; not with some fading regalia of earthly pomp, but with the robe washed and made white in the blood of the Lamb. Pray as you never prayed before, that by divine chirography written all over your nature, you may be properly addressed for a glorious destination. Turn not over a new leaf of the old book, but by the grace of God open an entirely new volume of experience, and put into practice the advice contained in the peculiar but beautiful rhythm of some author whose name I know not:

If you've any task to do,
Let me whisper, friend, to you,
Do it.

If you've anything to say,
True and needed, yes or nay,
Say it.

If you've anything to love,
As a blessing from above,
Love it.

If you've anything to give,
That another's joy may live,
Give it.

If some hollow creed you doubt,
Tho' the whole world hoot and shout,
Doubt it.

If you've any debt to pay,
Rest you neither night nor day,
Pay it.

If you've any joy to hold,
Near your heart, least it grow cold,
Hold it.

If you've any grief to meet,
At a loving Father's feet,
Meet it.

If you know what torch to light,
Guiding others in the night,
Light it.

DESPONDENT WOMEN

THE constantly recurring monthly suffering gives women the blues!

How hopeless the future appears, month after month the same siege with menstrual pain!

Comparatively few women understand that excessive pain indicates ill-health, or some serious derangement of the feminine organs.

A million women have been helped by Mrs. Pinkham. Read what two of them say.

MRS. LIZZIE COLEMAN, of Wayland, N. Y., writes:

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM—For years I suffered with painful menstruation and falling of womb. The bearing-down pains in my back and hips were dreadful. I could not stand for more than five minutes at a time when menstruation began. But thanks to Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, my sufferings are now a thing of the past. I shall gladly recommend your medicines to all my friends."

MISS C. D. MORRIS, 3 Louisburg Square, Boston, Mass., writes:

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM—I have been using Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and it has helped me wonderfully. I was troubled with headache, backache and that weak and tired feeling. I cannot say enough in praise of your medicine for it has done me so much good. I shall recommend it to all my friends who suffer."

Despondency is a disease. Nervousness and snappishness come with it. Will power won't overcome it. The feminine organs are connected by nerves with the brain and all parts of the body. These organs must be healthy or the mind is not healthy.

All low-spirited or suffering women may write to Mrs. Pinkham at Lynn, Mass., and receive her advice free of charge. Don't wait until your life is wrecked by neglect and suffering. Get advice in time.

Free—The New Cure for Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, etc.

Mrs. Castle, Poestenkill, N. Y. 80 days. It acts directly on the Kidneys, and cures by drinking out of the blood the poisonous Uric Acid, Urates, Lithates, etc., which cause the diseased conditions.

Disorders of the Kidneys and Bladder cause Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Gravel, Pain in the Back, Bladder Disorders, difficult or too frequent passing water, Dropsy, etc. For these diseases a Positive Specific Cure is found in a new botanical discovery, the wonderful KAVA-KAVA Shrub, called by botanists, the *piper methysticum*, from the Ganges River, East India. It has the extraordinary record of 1,200 hospital cures in 80 days.

Rev. W. B. Moore of Washington, D. C., testifies in the *Christian Advocate* that it completely cured him of Rheumatism and Kidney and Bladder Disease of many years' standing. Hon. W. A. Spearman, of Bartlett, Tenn., describes his terrible suffering from Uric Acid, Gravel and Urinary difficulty, being four months confined to his bed, and his complete cure by the Kava-Kava Shrub. Many ladies, including Mrs. Sarah Castle, of Poestenkill, N. Y., and Mrs. L. D. Fowley, Lancaster, Ills., testify to its wonderful powers in Kidney and other disorders peculiar to womanhood.

That you may judge of the value of this Great Discovery for yourself, we will send you one Large Case by mail FREE only asking that when cured yourself you will recommend it to others. It is a Sure Specific and cannot fail. Address, The Church Kidney Cure Company, No. 409 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

The Sunday School.

LESSON 12. MARCH 19, 1899.

Christ the Good Shepherd.

Study the whole chapter; also compare Psa. 23; Heb. 13:20, and 1 Pet. 5:4. Memory verses, 14-16.

GOLDEN TEXT—I am the good shepherd, the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.—John 10:11.

1. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

2. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

3. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice; and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.

4. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him; for they know his voice.

5. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him; for they know not the voice of strangers.

6. This parable spake Jesus unto them; but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them.

7. Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.

8. All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers; but the sheep did not hear them.

9. I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

10. The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

11. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

12. But he that is a hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.

13. The hireling fleeth, because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep.

14. I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

15. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.

16. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

Illustrative Applications.

But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice; and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. (v. 3). I condense from Customs in Bible Lands," by H. B. Tristram, D. D. (New York: Thomas Whitaker, 1894). In the level country the fold is an open enclosure, with wall high enough to prevent wolves and jackals from leaping it, covered with branches of thorny shrubs. One such fold serves for a large district. To this the shepherds lead their flocks at night. When the flocks have been carefully counted, sheep by sheep, as they enter, the door of the fold is fastened, and the fold is guarded all night by the porter. There are prowling Bedween, whose trade is sheep-stealing, but the porter will not let them in. He will only let a shepherd in. In the morning each shepherd calls his sheep forth. They recognize his voice, and follow him as he goes before them. Such true shepherd is our Lord. As the shepherd has the right of entrance into the fold, so he has the right of entrance into our hearts. Let him in. Keep out the Bedween of evil thoughts and evil deeds.

When he hath put forth all his own (v. 4). Sometimes a timorous or stupid sheep will not want to leave the fold. But he must leave it. His food is yonder on the hillside. So the shepherd enters and forces him out. Often we get into some pleasant fold of place, circumstance, retirement from duty. We do not want to leave it. But all our spiritual life would languish did we stay there. So the Good Shepherd, by trouble, trial, change, or some other providential method, forces us out. We do not like it. But the Good Shepherd loves us so well, for our best good, he must out-thrust us.

And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him; for they know not the voice of strangers (v. 5). Here is the true standard by which to test all teachers. If one dishonors Christ, discrowns him his deity, minifies or repudiates his atonement, such a one does not use the voice of Christ. If you are one of Christ's true sheep, you will not, for the world, follow him.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep (v. 7). It throws wonderful light upon the lesson if you remember that this chapter is the continuation of the conversation arising from the healing of the blind man, and that through it all there is a subtle but real reference to the cured blind man as one of Christ's true sheep. The Pharisees had cast the cured blind man out of the synagogue. I think it is as though Christ said: "Never mind. I am the door. You are not cast out by me. You have entered into light and forgiveness through me." If all the world disowns us, if we are Christ's it does not so much matter.

By me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and go out, and shall find pasture (v. 9). The teaching is very beautiful. In Christ we have safety and sustenance and liberty. He redeems; he nourishes the redeemed soul; he gives liberty—we go in and out. The Christian life is not a caged and narrow one. Every right thing in the wide world the Christian may enjoy.

I came that they may have life, and may have it abundantly (v. 10). Contrast the poor, pinched life of that blind man before his cure with the abundant life he had after his cure. Before, he must beg and grope. After, all the sky and earth were his to see; and, besides, he had found his Savior. True symbol this of the abundant, various, noble life Christ will give us.

And I know mine own, and mine own know me (v. 14). I sat by a Christian girl dying of a fever. The fell disease had burned away her reasonable consciousness, save when now and then it reasserted itself. Her plaint was, in her delirium, that she could not find her Christ. But toward the end she grew calmer and more rational, and died in rapture, so close was the Christ she thought she could not find. All the time Christ knew her, even though delirium prevented, now and then, her consciously knowing him. And yet all the time she really loved, trusted, knew, her Lord. Nothing can separate us from the great Shepherd's loving knowledge of us. If we must pass into the valley of the shadow of death, he will know that we are in it, and be with us in it.

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: and they shall be come one flock, one shepherd (v. 16). The unity is not in the fold, but in the shepherd. One flock may have various folds. But if we are in this fold, or that, if Christ is our shepherd, we are members of his one flock.—Wayland Hoyt, D. D., in Sunday School Times.

OBJECTED TO HAILSTONES

Sergeant of Seventh Infantry Swears at Camp Detail.

Out west in the big mountains when it hails it does a good job. The puny stones which sometimes rattle on Chicago housetops grow to formidable dimensions out there. They hurt when they hit, too, as many a soldier, ranger and cowboy can testify. Sergeant Powers, late of the Seventh infantry, can speak feelingly on this topic, for he had an experience which was painful as well as amusing to his comrades.

The Seventh left Laramie, Wyo., to go into camp down near Running Water. It was in the summer and the weather was delightful for several days. At last the regiment reached a spot where the commander decided good exercises could be held and ordered camp pitched at once. He was possibly induced to do this because clouds had been coming up, and it looked as if a shower might catch the command on the march. So the camp was laid out and Powers started in with a detail to put up B company's tents.

Powers went under a canvas to steady the tripod—they were walled Sibleys—while his detail arranged the poles outside and hauled the guys into position. The round head of the noncom, stuck through the canvas like a head at Donnybrook fair. Doubtless the hailstone was Irish and could not resist such a tempting bait. At any rate as the sergeant struggled with the tent the hail broke forth. The first stone was a big one, as large as a walnut, and it smote the sergeant just where his "nut" poked up under the canvas.

"Ouch, murther," yelled Powers, as his head withdrew with great speed. "Ye fiends of the wurrld, wud you murder me intirely. Bad cess to the whole av ye, sthop throwin' thim tent pegs at me sconce."

So saying he rushed from under, holding one of the articles named in a big red fist. As he got out another stone smote him and he howled and danced about, smiting right and left with the peg, while denouncing his comrades in unstinted terms. These latter had sought safety under some trees and were enjoying the sergeant's single-handed fight against the storm. At last, breathless and bruised, Powers rushed under a tree. There he saw the boys and reproached them for maltreating him. Just then Col. Andy Burt came up to learn the cause of the commotion. When it was explained to him he said:

"You're a brave man, Powers, but a bit hasty. I guess you're the first who has tried to lick a Wyoming hailstorm."

Delightful.

Mrs. Swellington—Oh, he's such a splendid preacher.

Mr. Swellington—In what way?

Mrs. Swellington—Why, he always says something to make you think of something else, so that the sermon's over before you know it.—Detroit Free Press.

The foods we eat furnish energy for the body just as burning coal makes steam for an engine.

The experiments of Prof. Frankland, Ph. D., of London, shows that cod-liver oil yields two and one-half times more energy than starches or sweets.

Scott's Emulsion is pure cod-liver oil combined with hypophosphites of lime and soda. It forms fat, gives strength, enriches the blood, invigorates the nerves, and repairs tissues.

50c. and $1.00, all druggists.
SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, New York.

CHIEF JUSTICE FULLER

HOME LIFE AND PERSONALITY OF A WELL-LOVED MAN.

One of the Simplest, Sincerest and Most Unassuming of Men—Books His Passion.

Chief Justice Melville Weston Fuller is one of the most accessible, unassuming and sincere of public men in Washington. One of his daughters said:

"The chief justice smokes the same priced cigars and the same number of them every day as he did when a briefless barrister. He is exceedingly economical in his personal expenditures. He dislikes to buy new clothes. His friends say he does not eat enough to keep a child alive. His daily fare is a cup of coffee for breakfast, a glass of milk and two or three raw oysters for lunch and a simple dinner, preferably in the New England style. He is very fond of boiled cod and pumpkin pie. He never walks. He does not care for cards. In fact books are his only passion. He reads everything from philosophy and biographical works to the most sensational stories. He goes to bed early, sometimes by 7 o'clock, and reads. He has no favorite author, but finds something good in everything. He and Justice Shiras sometimes find a great deal of quiet amusement in putting characters of Dickens into the clothes of the people who confront them. Can you fancy the chief justice sitting in the dim and solemn chamber of our supreme court, whispering behind a law book to his awe-inspiring associate:

"We will now hear what Mr. Micawber has to say."

The Chief Justice's Parrot.

The chief justice is very domestic. He loves and is loved by his children and grandchildren as only an amiable great man is loved. He is very fond of pets, at one time keeping a number of rabbits and chickens. His only pets now are Bonito, the green Mexican parrot, and Donald, a Scotch collie. Bonito had a predecessor, like himself, the gift of Romero the Mexican minister. One year ago the chief justice insisted on taking him to his summer home at Sorrento, and there Bonito took cold on the pier. The chief justice pronounced it catarrh and dosed him with boneset, pepper corns and hot whiskey. But Bonito died. While Mrs. Fuller, who does not care for pets, was out walking the chief justice took the body of Bonito and buried it in the only place, he said, where there was earth enough—the center of Mrs. Fuller's geranium bed. He decorated the grave artistically with pebbles and shells, and there it remains for whomever the chief justice can induce to pay respects to it. Mr. Romero, hearing of the loss, sent another Bonito. This one calls the chief justice "Papa" and shows the keenest delight when he comes home. He always expects a good-bye when the justice goes out, and always receives it. The house-hold is instructed to keep on hand a supply of the very best grapes to be had, as Bonito is fond of them. The chief justice has taught Bonito to remember the Sabbath day by always giving him a hard boiled egg on Sunday.

Donald, the collie, was the gift of a Chicago friend. He is not allowed in doors except for a daily visit to his master's study. This he never fails to make, and it is one of the most welcome incidents of the great man's busy day.

How His Associates Regard Him.

The seven associate justices will tell you that never has a chief justice been so loved and honored by his associates and every lawyer who practices in the supreme court will tell you how the business of the court is facilitated and the trial of cases made more simple by this fact. There was never a chief justice before allowed so much discretion in passing upon questions and in the decisions of minor points, by the associates who are supposed to enter into council over the little things. During the ten years that Mr. Fuller has presided, the most perfect harmony has been maintained on the supreme bench, and this has been done at times under trying circumstances. These men, supreme judges though they be, are after all but men, and being men of great knowledge, power and strong convictions, when they differ they must differ very violently.

Mr. Fuller was admitted to the bar in 1855 and was appointed chief justice by President Cleveland in 1888. He was born in Augusta, Me., February 11, 1833. His first case before the supreme court was Dawes vs. Sidney, his last Pennsylvania Railroad company vs. Keokuk Bridge company, the first case heard by Mr. White as chief justice, was argued March 4, 1874, by his successor to be, then plain Lawyer Fuller of Chicago.

CHIEF JUSTICE FULLER IN HIS CHAMBER.

Unneighborly London.

London life drives people in upon themselves. The first thing that strikes a newcomer from the provinces, particularly from the north, is the unneighborliness of London. Among the millions here you can live a more lonely life than in a remote country town. People don't know their next-door neighbors, and don't want to know them. Not only that, people dwelling in the same house are frequently strangers to each other. Often you knock at the doors of houses, and find that the occupier of the first floor doesn't know the name of the family on the third, though both may have lived there for years. When the spirit of neighborliness is absent, the spirit of citizenship suffers. In the slums it is different. The slums of London represent about the only place where neighborliness prevails. In the back slum courts you will find a more genuinely neighborly spirit than anywhere else in London. The little community knows itself thoroughly. They quarrel one day and help each other the next. They pull each other through hard times; they nurse each other, feed each other, clothe each other, shelter each other.—London Daily News.

The Spring Months

Are most likely to find your blood impure and lacking in the red corpuscles which enable it to carry nourishment to the nerves and other organs. Therefore you feel weak, tired and restless and are given by Hood's Sarsaparilla, which purifies, enriches and vitalizes the blood.

Hood's Pills cure biliousness. Mailed for 25 cents by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

MAGNETIZED DIGE.

Among the battered flotsam and jetsam that has accumulated in a second-hand store not a great distance from Jackson square is a shabby round table with a curious secret, and no doubt a still more curious history, says the New Orleans Times-Democrat. The top was once covered with green billiard cloth, which now is worn to tatters, and discloses a steel plate set in the center and perhaps ten inches square. The whole top is loose and can be removed, revealing an interior space containing a horseshoe magnet wound with wire and connected with an armature very much like that of an ordinary telegraphic instrument. A close examination shows an insulated wire running down one of the legs to a small knob or button, protruding on the outside. When the top is in place the steel plate rests directly over the magnet. This strange device is explained clearly enough by its present owner. "It is a dice table," he said, "on which a lot of money has been won. When it was in order there was a good-sized battery inside, connected with the magnet. When the knob on the leg was pressed the current was turned on, and that made the steel plate magnetic. The dice they used with it had small metal disks on one face, and as long as the current was on they naturally fell that side down. When the knob was released they would fall any way they chanced to come, so all that was necessary for the operator to do was to keep his knee on the button and he could absolutely control his play."

BLIZZARD PHILOSOPHY.

Again the drifting snows descend
On prairies that were brown and sere;
Beneath its weight the branches bend,
And all the earth looks cold and drear.

Talk of melancholy days
Till thou hast seen such days as these—
When shall my fond, enraptured gaze
Behold once more the building trees?

When shall the wild bird music bring
When on the air the spatted cow?
Where are the early signs of spring
That should, by rights, be with us now?

There's nothing now that I admire
Within the scope of mortal sight;
In light of this domestic fire
I'm warming up on anthracite.

The smoke ascends, puff after puff,
Toward a cloud-enveloped sky;
The ice-man's figure I've learned stuff
And I—get warm or vainly try.

One lesson does this theme give birth—
A lesson hard for man to learn—
There is no paradise on earth,
No matter where our footsteps turn.

No spot is there upon this sphere
Where every want can be supplied;
Where alike life and cheer,
And none may die and none have died.

Life's riddle is a simple sum,
And this the key to full success—
Just put into it more than you come
And be content with more or less.

And so I cease my wail of woe
And gladly stand up for the state;
Full harvests sleep beneath the snow
And, as for summer, I can wait.

—Nebraska State Journal.

Man of Regular Habits.

"Is Colonel Hankthunder at home?" inquired the caller.

"I will please tell me whether you have any business with him?" asked Mrs. Hankthunder.

"Yes, ma'am," he answered. "I am a reporter on the Daily Blaz. I wish to ask him his opinion about the present policy of the administration in the matter of expansion."

"You should have come earlier in the day," said Mrs. Hankthunder. "The Colonel never has any opinions after 4 o'clock."—Chicago Tribune.

BEST OF ALL

To cleanse the system in a gentle and truly beneficial manner, when the Spring time comes, use the true and perfect remedy, Syrup of Figs. Buy the genuine. Manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, and for sale by all druggists, at 50 cents per bottle.

One On Mamma.

Small Johnny had on his best clothes, and his mamma told him not to play in the dirt with them on.

"You don't have any dirt in heaven to play in?" he asked.

"No, of course not," replied the mother.

"Then, what do little boys do up there?" queried Johnny.

"Oh, they play harps and sing and sit under beautiful trees," was the reply.

"Well," said the little fellow, "I don't see how they can have trees if there ain't no dirt."—Houston Post.

Prompt for Once.

"Queer about Clara's wedding with that plumber?"

"What was queer?"

"Why he came to get married at the very day and hour he said he would."—Detroit Free Press.

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CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS.
Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.
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25 CTS

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A Most Remarkable Remedy That Quickly Restores Lost Vigor To Men.

A Free Trial Package Sent by Mail To All Who Write.

Free trial packages of a most remarkable remedy are being mailed to all who will write the State Medical Institute. They cured so many men who had battled for years against the m

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1899.

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TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers.
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor.

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wide-awake and thinking men. Its editorial page is the strongest and most thoughtful of any in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

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CIRCULTAION LAST WEEK: 168,000

OUR FEBRUARY PREMIUMS.

We offered a watch to the sender of the largest club of subscribers during February. Another to the second largest, and another to the third largest. G. W. Range, Dayton, Washington, sent us a club of 152. O. Beardsley, Moscow, Idaho, sent a club of 130, and J. T. Robertson, of Albion, Ills., sent 121. A watch will be mailed to each of these parties this week.

PLEASED WITH BLADE CHINA

We are hearing from subscribers who have purchased our new imported china sets. They all agree that the new Blade china is a much finer article than the American made, and it is more satisfactory. Its superlative excellence more than makes up the small difference in price between this new imported ware and that made in America. Get in your order for a set. You will be more than satisfied with it.

THE CANTEEN MUST GO.

There has been much controversy over the establishment of what is known as the army canteen, the government permitting intoxicants to be sold to soldiers in their camps and at their posts, officers or soldiers being detailed to conduct the sale.

Even the soldiers themselves are divided on this question. On the one hand it is claimed that many of the men will drink anyway, and it is better to have liquor sold to them at the camp in limited quantities than to have it smuggled in or have the men go to the saloons outside of camp.

On the other hand it is claimed that the men who are abstainers make the hardiest soldiers, better endure fatigue and are far healthier, especially in a hot climate.

This is borne out by the statement of Lord Kitchener, who had the opportunity of judging of the effects of liquor on the English soldiers in Egypt. He observed that the men who did not touch intoxicants better withstood the effects of the climate and the campaign.

But the canteen must go. Congress has so decreed. A section of the new army bill cuts off the sale of liquors to soldiers within government posts or reservations. The section making this provision reads as follows:

Sec. 17. That no officer or private soldier shall be detailed to sell intoxicating drinks, as a bartender or otherwise, in any post exchange or canteen, nor shall any person be required or allowed to sit such liquors in any encampment or fort or on any premises used for military purposes by the United States; and the secretary of war is hereby directed to issue such general order as may be necessary to carry the provisions of this section into full force and effect.

The country generally will approve the section, and the soldiers themselves will no doubt agree it is a wise provision of the law.

THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS.

The Democratic members of the House of Representatives held a caucus February 27 to determine the party attitude on the Philippine question. It was an opportunity which they could have utilized so as to benefit their party immensely. They could have made a declaration of progress which would have brought the party abreast with the best public sentiment of the United States, and held by an overwhelming majority of the people. But with the Bourbon blindness, they set their party, so far as they were able, as a stumbling-block in the path of progress. The resolution adopted was this:

That the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise permanent sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over the Philippine Islands, and asserts its determination, when an independent government shall have been erected therein, to transfer to said government, upon terms which shall be reasonable and just, all rights secured under the cession by Spain, and thereupon to leave the government and control of the islands to their people.

Every intelligent man, upon reading this, wishes to know how the last clause can be carried out. How is a native government to be formed? Is the United States to erect a form of government, and then transfer its sovereignty? Or do the Democratic Congressmen wish us to make the transfer to Aguinaldo and his gang while they are in arms against us, endeavoring to burn, murder and destroy?

What makes the action of the caucus incomprehensible is that it voted down a resolution that this government should give notice to the Filipinos that it would co-operate with them in establishing an independent government, and aid them in making it effective. This would be in favor of putting affairs in the Philippines upon the same basis as those in Cuba. The caucus voted it down with emphasis. It is difficult to see why, unless the members feared to commit themselves to any line of policy whatever.

All the caucus did was to record itself as "agin the administration." Its resolution demands certain things, but fails to state how they are to be brought about. Quite Democratic, isn't it?

Uncle Sam is likely to have one captured vessel from Santiago, after all. The Reina Mercedes has been raised from her position at the entrance to the harbor, pumped out and taken to the inner port, where she now lies preparatory to a trip to Havana for repairs.

Billy Bryan will not dare ask men who have had their wages increased to raise their hands. We will now find evidences of prosperity everywhere.

Calamity howling editors will have to take a new tack. Wages are being increased everywhere and the increase is voluntary.

THE FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

The "war Congress" has passed into history, and the pages devoted to it are in the main notable ones. Its members were elected on the money issue, but it did not legislate on that matter at all, because the Senate still retained an opposition plurality. The new Senate is reliably Republican, as is the House, and we may expect it to enact into legislation the expression of the popular will which made McKinley President and elected two Republican Congresses to support a Republican administration.

The Fifty-Fifth Congress was called in extra session almost immediately after the inauguration of President McKinley, to enact a tariff law that should provide a sufficient revenue, and start our industries actively at work by proper protective legislation. This duty was performed promptly and well. In its first regular session, the destruction of the Maine made war with Spain inevitable; and in this matter the recent Congress gave the country a magnificent lesson in sinking party differences in order to meet the exigencies of conflict.

Fifty millions of dollars for the national defense were placed unreservedly in the hands of the President, and the resolutions which were in effect a declaration of war, were passed without a dissenting vote. No previous Congress ever faced a war with like unanimity, nor stood so patriotically in line with the Executive in carrying on hostilities. This alone will make it memorable among our war Congresses. Even the war revenue bill received the support of many members whose personal views were averse to some of its provisions.

There is hardly an adverse criticism which can be truthfully urged against the course of the Fifty-fifth Congress during its notable second session. It was not until in the session just closed that bitter partisanship was renewed. It was practically unanimous as to the war itself, but split upon the question of dealing with the new conditions which that war brought upon us. Territorial expension was the question which developed the line of partisan cleavage.

Though it adjourned leaving some necessary things undone—such as providing permanent governments for Hawaii and Porto Rico, and proper provision for the increase of the navy—it has been a working Congress, and has made for itself a record in that respect. It will be memorable, because it spanned the term of a war which marks the close of our policy of practical isolation, in a political sense, from the remainder of the world, and the beginning of a new and more glorious era of territorial expansion; of a mighty movement for the conquest of the world's markets by our commerce and our manufactures; and of the taking up of our share of the "white man's burden"—the civilization of the world's barbaric races.

RAILROADS ARE PROSPEROUS.

The reports of railway earnings are an excellent index of the business condition of the country. The more activity, the more railway traffic, and a corresponding increase in earnings. Trade stagnation means the handling of less freight, and hence diminished earnings. The gross earnings for 1898 showed a decided gain over 1897. The net earnings are not large, but the reasons show that the railway officials have confidence that the good times have come to stay, for a vast sum has been laid out in track improvements and in the purchase of new rolling stock. This means that continued heavy traffic is expected for 1898 and the following years.

The New York Financial Chronicle tabulate the earnings of 182 railroads for the calendar year, with comparisons both of gross and net with those of previous years. The results are in every way gratifying. The aggregate of the gross receipts for 144,518 miles of road are $1,180,005,798 against $1,112,417,905 in 1897, a gain of $67,587,983. The net earnings were $372,991,544 against $350,996,889, a gain of $21,994,655. The gross increase is much larger than the 1897 gain over 1896, which was $55,000,000, but the net is smaller, being, in round numbers, $22,000,000 against $36,000,000 in 1897. The fact that with a larger gross gain by $12,500,000 than 1897 showed, the net increase has been $14,000,000 less than the increase of that year is surprising at first. However, this money has gone into the property to strengthen and develop it for future use.

These figures make it clear that the railroads are prosperous in every way, and this means that the whole country is prospering also. The figures are eloquent, and they tell a tale which is pleasant to hear.

SAGASTA'S RESIGNATION.

The resignation of the Sagasta cabinet is not unexpected. It was foreshadowed from the time when, after the signing of the peace protocol, at the urgent request of the Queen Regent, Sagasta retained the post of prime minister to complete the peace negotiations. It is to be interpreted as a sacrifice of the ministry on the altar of political necessity, to preserve the dynasty from attempted overthrow. Sagasta has shown himself a patriot by the cause he has taken. He has avoided the probability of civil war in Spain.

He and his colleagues thus accept political defeat as the price of their devotion to the crown. His defense of his course in asking for terms of peace through the French minister was that to continue the war would have imperiled the dynasty. This has been accepted as valid, even by his enemies. But the people demanded some scapegoat for the disasters of the war, and Sagasta's resignation is the result. The question is, who is there in Spain who can do as well as he in confirming the treaty of peace, in remodeling Spanish finances and putting the nation on the path of prosperity?

By the terms of the bill just passed by Congress to aid the Ohio Centennial and Northwest Territory Exposition, the United States will expend a half million dollars in the erection of a government building, and filling it with exhibits. This grant, however, is conditional upon the state of Ohio granting an equal sum. The General Assembly does not meet until January next, but it can be assumed as a certainty that it will make an appropriation large enough to do justice to the time and the event.

A Washington correspondent says that "Ohio soon will be discoverable on the political map by the cloud of dust hanging over it." Well, there may be much dust kicked up this summer, but it is not necessary for identification. Ohio is too prominent on the political map for any one to fail to find it at a glance.

OUR NEW STORY.

We begin this week the publication of a most excellent serial story, now printed first in the United States. While the scene opens in London, it is transferred later to this country—to Denver and San Francisco. It is a clear, strong story, and the interest is remarkably well sustained from the first to the closing chapter.

Read the opening instalment of "The House by The Lock," and you will see that it promises to be all that we claim for it. There has been some delay in getting it, but all readers who like a good serial will agree that it was better to wait for a thoroughly excellent story than to take an inferior one immediately.

GEORGE DEWEY, ADMIRAL.

On Friday, the Senate confirmed the President's nomination of George Dewey to be Admiral of the United States navy.

Admiral Dewey occupies an unique position. His victory in Manila Bay thunderstruck the world. It made him the hero of the hour with the American people. And from that time forward he has done nothing which did not increase the esteem and admiration in which he is held.

During the weary weeks that his fleet lay guarding the sullen city, with European squadrons gathering to watch him, and some evincing a disposition to annoy and harass, he was cool, discreet and diplomatic, yet forceful. A man less admirably balanced would have made mistakes. But Dewey made none. He might have embroiled us in a war with Germany. Had he been rash and impatient, he would have tried to take the city earlier, and given pretext for foreign interference. He avoided all risk of trouble, yet he earned the respect of every foreign commander.

Nothing that he might have done could have added to the splendor of his victory; but he might have dimmed the reputation he then achieved had he not possessed the qualities of a statesman as well as those of a fighting captain. So he stands as the hero par excellence of the Spanish war—the man of whom it can be truly said that his countrymen find everything to applaud and nothing to criticise.

Admiral Dewey, the nation salutes you!

A PROMOTERS' BOOM.

There has been, within the last few weeks, a multiplicity of trusts formed—on paper. One of these was the pottery trust. It was organized under the convenient laws of New Jersey, with a capital of 27 millions, and was intended to embrace all the potteries in the United States. But it has fallen through. Of the total capitalization, not one quarter was taken; and the potteries are starting up again under their former management.

The present trust movement is nothing but a promoters' boom. There is such an abundance of money seeking investment that those active gentlemen gentlemen known as "promoters" are trying to take advantage of it. The political demagogues have aided them by sedulously teaching that all trusts are enormously profitable. "If the men with idle money accept this statement," reasons the smooth promoter, "then there is money for me in organizing a trust and putting the shares on the market." And he straightway begins.

The modus operandi is very simple. Take the proposed pottery trust for example. The first step is to see the owners of the various plants, persuade them to join together, and get the price each wants for his plant. Suppose these prices aggregate 15 million dollars. The trust is incorporated with 27 millions capital stock. The 15 millions is set aside for the owners of the potteries embraced, and the remaining 12 millions are offered to the general public.

If the latter had been as eager to invest as the promoters supposed, the trust would have been an accomplished fact. But the investors did not fancy pottery shares, and the bubble burst before it was fully blown.

CIRCUIT JUDGE DAY.

No appointment which President McKinley has made since his inauguration has given more universal satisfaction that that of Judge William R. Day to the bench of the Sixth district of the United States circuit court.

Within a very brief time Judge Day has become one of the best known men in the country. From a lawyer with merely a local reputation he became assistant secretary of state; then at the head of that great department at a time when foreign complications had to be met and untangled, then at the head of the American peace commission to settle terms of peace with Spain.

President McKinley know Judge Day's worth if the country did not. In every position, and all of them were trying ones, Judge Day met all requirements. He never lost his modesty nor his dignity. He was always unassuming and always equal to the task, however great. He inspired confidence, and no man in recent years has secured such a firm hold upon the people.

It is well known that Judge Day does not love public life. He has never been an office seeker. Especially has he been opposed to holding any office not closely associated with his profession. Politics is not to his liking. As United States circuit judge his course will be such as to continue to command that respect and confidence which he has earned during the past two years.

THE TAKING OF CEBU.

Admiral Dewey is not so worried over the situation about Manila that he can not spare a part of his fleet to extend American authority among the islands. On February 22—a most appropriate date—Commander Cornwell, of the gunboat Petrel, raised the American flag over Cebu, the capital of the most important province in the Visayan group.

The position is a strong one, and has now been garrisoned by Americans. It will form an excellent base for whatever military operations may be needed to extend our authority north and south of Cebu. It will have been noted that but little opposition is encountered by our forces, except in front of Manila. When Aguinaldo is captured, or surrenders, the restoration of peace throughout the islands will not be a difficult task, nor one long delayed. The chief task is to crush the insurgent leader and the force under his immediate command.

GERMANY'S IMPORTANT MOVE.

The German government has come to the wise decision that it will not interfere with the United States in the Philippines. Formal announcement has been made to the State department at Washington that all German warships at those islands will be withdrawn; and this is coupled with a request that the United States take under its protection the persons and property of German subjects—which trust was immediately accepted by this government.

This action sets at rest all the rumors of German intervention. It will discourage Aguinaldo, for there is no doubt he has been endeavoring to secure aid from Germany. It places Germany at once among our friends, instead of in the ranks of our possible enemies. It is good news to everybody in the United States, unless it be the rabid anti-expansionists.

Diplomacy does its work in secret, and as a rule the outside world knows nothing but results. The methods of their attainment remain secret. This action of Germany was not taken on impulse. It is a probable conjecture that it is the outcome of the diplomatic moves which began when Dewey's victory on May 1 last year electrified the world. It is equally probable that England has been in them a factor, and one friendly to the United States.

That matters have been seriously strained at times the world has been permitted to know. The conduct of the German warships in Manila bay during the long wait last summer, pending the arrival of American reinforcements, is known to all. Another evidence was the publication of Dewey's dispatch calling for the Oregon at once. The pretense was made that this was given out by mistake, but it is altogether likely that it was made public advisedly. Then came the announcement of the return of the German admiral, with his flagship, to Manila. Evidently the publication of the Dewey dispatch was "calling the bluff" of Germany. And now comes the latter's apparent relinquishment of whatever designs she may have entertained with regard to a foothold in the Philippines.

The prospect is very much brighter for the realization of Lord Charles Beresford's project of an alliance among England, the United States, Germany and Japan to maintain an open door to trade in China and the Far East.

WAGES GO UP.

Too bad for the calamity howlers!

They cry that times are no better, and that laboring men are being crushed; and yet here comes the news that wages are going up, while mills, mines and factories are busy day and night trying to catch up with their orders.

Yesterday came the news that the Federal Steel company, of Chicago, has advanced the wages of its men eight per cent. This company has large mills in Illinois and Wisconsin. The reason given for the advance was that the general prosperity in the iron and steel business warranted it. The increase will affect 15,000 men and will make a difference in the pay roll of the company in the two states of $250,000.

The American Wire and Steel company, of Chicago, has also increased the wages of its men eight per cent.

At Pittsburg the advance in the price of steel billets has been followed by an increase of eight per cent in the wages of workmen and this advance affects fully 15,000 men.

In the Birmingham, Alabama, coal mining district an advance has been made of 2½ cents on every ton of coal mined and it is believed this advance will be made general throughout the mining districts of the state.

Notices have been posted at all the blast furnaces at Sharon and Sharpsville, Pennsylvania, increasing the wages of employes from te to fifteen cents a day. This affects 1,500 men.

And all this comes in one day's news. It is an every day occurrence, this advance in wages. It is being done voluntarily and in all lines of business.

And, furthermore, it is being done under the wise administration of President McKinley.

WAGES FOR 28 YEARS.

The Massachusetts Bureau of Labor, in its latest bulletin, gives a tabular comparison of the average wages in various trades, for 1870 and 1898, the data for which are statistics from twelve cities scattered throughout the United States. It is of such general interest that it is herewith reproduced:

	1870.	1898.
Blacksmiths	$2.43	$2.43
Blacksmiths' helpers	1.42	1.52
Boiler makers	2.85	2.50
Boiler makers' helpers	1.41	1.53
Bricklayers	3.15	3.51
Cabinet makers	2.14	2.29
Carpenters	2.06	2.32
Compositors	2.52	2.81
Hodcarriers	1.75	2.00
Ironmolders	2.60	2.60
Ironmolders' helpers	1.53	1.58
Machinists	2.30	2.41
Mechinists' helpers	1.34	1.75
Painters	2.22	2.60
Pattern makers	2.70	2.90
Plumbers	2.74	3.15
Stonecutters	3.07	3.23
Teamsters	1.58	1.88

It will be noted that there is no instance of an average diminution. In two or three trades the wage rate has been stationary, but as the cost of living is less to-day than it was in 1870, because of the decline in the prices of most necessaries of life, the same wages will buy more now. The advance in other trades averages about 7½ per cent.

Of course these trades do not cover the entire field of labor. But they are sufficient to show that there has been no great decline in the wage rate, as has been so often asserted for political ends.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

The army influence has proved too strong in the French Senate. That body has yielded to the cry of the rabble, backed by the military ring, and has passed the bill to have the Dreyfus case determined by the entire court of cassation, instead of by its criminal branch alone.

It has been the belief that the anti-Dreyfusards, in working this scheme, were certain that the revision of the case will be defeated if the case comes before the entire court. However, Premier Dupuy and Lebret, the minister of justice, both assured the Senate that the proceedings before the full court shall be publicly conducted, as are all ordinary trials, and that the government intends that every step shall have full publicity.

Whether this promise will be carried out in good faith remains to be seen. But the military influence has been so strong in this matter that one may be permitted to doubt the outcome until the event proves whether the court is controlled by justice or the generals.

When the Oregon reaches Manila it will be to everybody's advantage to be good.

SCHLEY'S VINDICATION.

The plan of promoting Sampson over the head of Schley, believed to be favored by Secretary Long, was defeated by the Senate. That body placed him on the roll of the navy two files above Sampson—which was their relative position at the outbreak of the war, when Sampson was made acting rear admiral, in order to put him over Schley's head. The latter now stands next to Admiral Dewey, with Sampson two numbers lower down.

Thus ends the imbroglio over the naval battle of Santiago. Schley's letter in his own defense put the whole matter in a new light. It showed that his delay before Cienfuegos for which he had been criticised severely, was by direct order of Sampson. And as to his conduct in the battle, the testimony of every Spanish officer, from Cervera down, showed that the Brooklyn was their most formidable antagonist, and, from her position in the battle, bore the brunt of the fighting.

The action of the Senate will be approved by the country. The man who does the actual fighting is the man who should have especial honor. "There is glory enough for all," was Schley's utterance after the battle, and the people of the United States are glad that he has been given his full share.

Toledo fared well at the hands of the Congress which adjourned Saturday. A half million dollars for the Ohio Centennial; $150,000 for the harbor for the fiscal year and $800,000 for the harbor on a continuing contract. It pays to have this district represented by the right kind of a man. Democrats will not continue to ask what Southard has done for the district.

As Aguinaldo is the Filipino Washington, according to Senator Hoar, isn't it about time for his farewell address?

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

German Friendliness.

Evidences were given in several directions last week of an intention on the part of the German government to promote friendly intercourse with the United States. From official information received at Washington regarding the progress of the German meat inspection bill, it is learned that the portions of the measure which most interest the American packers are left to future regulation by the Bundesrath or federal council. It is understood that the question as to the number of inspections necessary has been left open subject to action on the part of the Bundesrath which framed the bill and passed it before it was reported to the Reichstag. Late advices are to the effect that the officials of the German foreign office have notified the United States embassy that the government will henceforth admit American oranges, lemons and raisins without examination, and also that all American fresh and dried fruits will be allowed to pass in bond through Germany without being examined. It is also understood that an earnest effort will be made to do away with the friction which has caused several large American insurance companies to close their offices in Berlin, owing to certain onerous requirements of the Prussian law.

Germany's Important Move.

What will be regarded generally as a much more striking indication at once of a friendly disposition on the part of Germany and of diplomatic skill in its manifestation was given last week when the Berlin authorities ordered the withdrawal of all vessels of its navy from Philippine waters and placed the lives and property of its subjects there under the protection of the American government. This stroke of policy is considered a particularly happy one, in view of the delicacy of the situation which seems to have existed when Dewey was before Manila last year and the rumors which have from time to time gained regarding possible friction between the American and German naval commanders there. The situation has been definitely cleared, and all chance of similar rumors gaining currency set at rest by this neat stroke on the part of the German government. President McKinley could scarcely do otherwise than accept the trust thus imposed by the German authorities, and it is safe to say that any responsibility thus assumed by the government will be more than compensated for by the clearing of the air that must necessarily result.

The Next Congress.

It is an old story, but we remind our readers that the next Congress will be safely Republican in each House. The Senate now contains 46 Republicans, 34 Democrats, 10 Populists, etc. The incoming Senate, when all the seats are occupied, will contain 55 Republicans, 27 Democrats, 8 Populists, etc. Thirty Senatorial seats were vacated on March 4. Seats belonging to the following states have not been filled: Delaware, California, Nebraska and Pennsylvania, Republican; Florida and Utah, Democratic. Of the 24 remaining Senators 14 succeed themselves: Republicans, Hawley, Hale, Lodge, Burrows, Davis, Hanna, Aldrich, Proctor and Clark, 9; Democrats, Money, Cockrell, Stewart, Bate, and Daniel, 5. The residue, eight Republicans and two Democrats, are new incumbents.

Advanced Wages.

The best news items now floating through the columns of the newspapers tell of the advance in wages in mills, furnaces and factories. In almost every branch of the iron business the advance is from 15 to 25 per cent. In the cotton mills of Massachusetts there is noted an unconditional advance to the figures prevailing a year or two ago. The railroads will have to follow suit pretty soon, as some gigantic complaints are being made in certain quarters.

In view of all this the Democratic papers are not having quite so much fun with the advance agent of prosperity as they had a year or so ago, for prosperity hurts them real bad.

The wages of 8,000 workmen in mills controlled by the American Steel and Wire company were advanced from 5 to 10 per cent Thursday. A similar advance was made by several iron working firms at Lebanon, Pa., and in the mills of the American Tin Plate company, at Martin's Ferry, O.

The Navy Personnel Law.

Great changes will be made in the Navy Register by the new naval personnel bill. Every officer in the line and engineer corps of the navy goes up in rank or number. The majority receive increased pay, they are allowed army pay while on sea, which is considerably more than they now receive, and when on shore duty are allowed money for quarters when not provided at navy yards and naval stations. All the bureau chiefs at once attain the rank of rear admiral. But the great thing is that the bill puts an end to the everlasting fighting between line and staff.

The Nicaragua Canal.

In conference committee the appropriation for the Nicaragua canal was stricken from the river and harbor bill, and in its stead was placed a clause authorizing the President to secure the survey of all trans-isthmian routes at a cost of $1,000,000. This plan will bring in the Panama route and another element of uncertainty. If it were not for the powerful interests opposed to any canal, the plan for another survey to include the Panama canal would seem to be advisable. But the rivalry of routes is likely to give the opposition new excuses for delay and enable it to put off the canal for a quarter of a century. The government has already spent in surveys enough money to build many miles of the canal. The opposition is really taxing the United States to further their scheme for putting off the great work. It doubtless expects that the experience of the Oregon will be forgotten by next December and that two routes instead of one will furnish opportunity for dividing and neutralizing the efforts for a canal. This business of delay at the expense of the government has been the regular thing for years.

Bailey Won't Play.

Representative Bailey is disgusted with his experience as a leader of the Democratic minority in the House, and has thrown up the job, declaring that he will not be a candidate for the leadership in the next House. The refusal of many Democrats to support him in the attempt to declare the seats of the military congressmen vacant is responsible for this resolution.

Spanish Folly.

Admiral Montojo has been thrown into prison at Madrid. His crime consisted in fighting Dewey at Manila until his last ship was sunk. The commandant of Cavite arsenal was also imprisoned. His crime consisted in his defense of the fort until Dewey made further defense impossible. Gen. Linares is also to be prosecuted for the defeat at Santiago.

No Prisoners Held.

In response to a dispatch from Secretary Alger, caused by the bombastic stories given out by the Filipino Hong Kong junta, Maj. Gen. Otis reports that the rebels hold but three American prisoners, taken in January, while, on the other hand, he has captured over 1,500 rebels since February 4, when the hostilities begun.

More Troops for Otis.

Five more regiments of infantry and one of artillery have been ordered to the Philippines. This will make the total force under Maj. Gen. Otis as follows: Infantry, 28 regiments, of which 15 are volunteers; artillery, 2 regiments and a battery of volunteers; cavalry, 1 regiment, besides a sufficient engineer corps, signal and hospital corps for an army of that size. An additional hospital force sailed yesterday on the Relief. Gen. Otis' army is now much larger than was the entire regular army before the war with Spain.

Gen. Wheeler Supported.

In the House of Representatives, in the closing hours, a motion to consider the resolution declaring that Representatives Wheeler, Colson, Campbell and Robbins had vacated their seats on accepting commissions in the army was defeated by a vote of 146 to 77. The votes against consideration were cast by 44 Democrats, 101 Republicans and one Populist, while 21 Republicans, 43 Democrats and 13 Populists favored consideration.

Death of Lord Herschell.

Death has sadly interfered with the joint high commission, as originally constituted. First, Nelson Dingley, one of the American commissioners, was taken, and now Lord Herschell, the British representative and president of the commission, has passed away. The deceased peer was one of the ablest and most conspicuous of the English "law lords." He was a Liberal, and had occupied the position of Lord Chancellor in the two last administrations of Mr. Gladstone. In addition to his duties as joint high commissioner for Great Britain, he was a member of the Venezuela arbitration tribunal. It will be difficult to fill these important positions. The death of the jurist and statesman in the midst of his usefulness is an event to be sincerely deplored.

Kipling's Recovery.

The announcement that Rudyard Kipling is no wout of danger and convalescent will be received with sincere gratification in the United States and throughout the British Empire. His condition early last week was such that recovery seemed impossible, and it is not too much to say that at that time the issue of this young man's struggle for life was the subject of sympathetic thought and talk wherever his tales and poems are read, and that is throughout the English-speaking world. The patient was strong enough Saturday to look at some of the daily papers, and is said to have been surprised and greatly moved by the evidences of genuine and wide-spread solicitude for his recovery. To very few men indeed is accorded the privilege of knowing the hold his genius has taken on the hearts and imagination of his fellow-men. The experience is one that may have a sobering and humbling rather than an exhilating effect on a strong character like Rudyard Kipling's. It cannot fail to increase his sense of responsibility and help to fit him for the noble performance of higher aspirations.

Business Situation.

General business conditions retain all of their encouraging features. So far as can be seen there is nothing adverse in the situation. In nearly every department of trade increasing activity is reported, and the outlook for the spring season is such that the most extensive preparations for taking care of the expected rush of business are being made.

In the iron and steel trade the situation has taken the form of a boom. Prices for all lines of goods are higher than they have been for the last ten years, and as the mills are all running to their capacity there is not much prospect of any important concessions in the near future. Indeed, the indications are rather for higher prices, the home consumption being so great that foreign orders are being turned down. It is not now a question of getting orders so much as it is of getting the material with which to fill the orders already booked.

The feeling of the business community with regard to the future is plainly indicated by the voluntary advances in wages that have recently been reported. No stronger evidence of a complete restoration of confidence could be found than this nor more convincing proofs as to the legitimacy of the improvement that has taken place. The records made for the first two months of the current year are far ahead of those for the corresponding period in 1898, the bank clearings showing enormous gains and the traffic statistics also making a most favorable comparison with last year.

Grain Markets.

With regard to wheat, speculators are waiting to see the effect of the winter's severity on the fall-sown grain before enlarging their operations for either a rise or a fall. Meantime supplies are ample for present wants, and the statisticians have come to the assistance of the bears with the information that the reserves in farmers' hands are more than sufficient for all the demands that may be made upon them until another harvest becomes available.

European exporting countries continue to indicate by the smallness of their weekly shipments that their production of last season has been largely overestimated. At the same time, the heavy quantities still being bought by the importing nations of Europe suggest that the requirements of the latter for the season much exceeded the estimates made last September. From the present outlook it does not appear likely that there will be any excessive supply of wheat for importers, this side of harvest at least, even allowing for fairly liberal contributions meantime from the southern hemisphere.

WHAT CONGRESS DID AND FAILED TO DO.

Summary of the More Important Measures and Appropriations That Went Through or Failed.

Following are some of the more important measures acted on during the closing session of the Fifty-fifth Congress:

Treaty of Peace with Spain.
Naval Personnel Bill.
Provisional Army Bill.
Bill to make George Dewey an admiral.
Bill for the taking of the twelfth census.
Bill to improve the condition of seamen in the merchant marine.

Following are some of the more important of the appropriations of the Congress:

Investigation Isthmian canal routes, $1,000,000.
Public buildings, $4,000,000.
Ohio Centennial, $500,000.
Buffalo Exposition, $500,000.
Paris Exposition, $1,200,000.
Government Printing Office Building, $2,000,000.
French spoliation claims, $3,100,000.
Department of Justice Building, $1,000,000.
Army transportation deficiency, $8,500,000.
Mail transportation, $1,000,000.
Dry Docks, $1,000,000.
War ships and armor, $10,000,000.
Payment to Spain, $20,000,000.
New coast defense batteries, $1,500,000.
War Department deficiencies on account of war, $47,000,000.

Following are some of the important measures which failed to become laws:

Various monetary reform bills—reported from committees to House of Representatives.

To prohibit unauthorized dealing in railway tickets—passed House.

To establish code of laws for Alaska—passed House.

To establish territorial government in Hawaii—reported to both houses.

Ship subsidy bill—reported to both houses.

Hawaiian cable provision stricken from Sundry Civil bill in conference.

LADY CURZON'S NEW DECORATION.

The decoration of the Imperial Order of the Crown of India had been conferred upon Lady Curzon, wife of Lord Curzon of Kedleston, the Viceroy of India, and the daughter of Mr. L. Z. Leiter, of Chicago.

The Imperial Order of the Crown of India was instituted on January 1, 1878, "to consist of the Sovereign and of such of the Princesses of Her Majesty's Royal and Imperial House, the wives or other female relatives of the Indian Princes and other Indian ladies, and of the wives or other female relatives of any other persons who have held, now hold, or may hereafter hold the office of Viceroy and Governor General of India, Governors of Madras or Bombay, or of Principal Secretary of State for India, as the Sovereign may think fit to appoint."

The following is a description of the decoration: Her Majesty's royal and imperial cipher, "V. R. I.," is set in diamonds, pearls and turquoises, the border is set in pearls and the imperial crown is jeweled and enameled in proper colors. The ribbon, tied in a bow, is of light blue watered silk, one and a half inches wide, and edged white.

THIS CHURCH RUNS ON WHEELS.

On Conanicut Island, just across the way from Newport, R. I., a clever clergyman has just built a church on wheels.

Conanicut Island is a thriving, promising summer resort that prides itself on possessing more hotels than the queen of American watering places.

Conanicut Island is nine miles long and dotted with clusters of houses at considerable distances apart. Jamestown, the principal settlement is the centre for all the churches, and the residents at the end of the island find it inconvenient to attend services.

Rev. C. E. Preston, pastor of St. Matthew's Episcopal church, has studied the problem of attendance. He is a zealous worker, and when he learned that the people could not come to him he concluded that it was necessary for him to go to them, and hit upon the scheme of building a portable church. Mr. Preston disclosed his plan to his flock, but the scheme was not cordially received.

Having implicit faith in the idea Mr. Preston laid it before the Newport Episcopal convocation, from which he received assistance enough to begin the work. By unremitting labor the necessary fund was raised to construct the movable edifice, and in a few days it will be dedicated.

The building is 17 by 28 feet, and rests on a heavy truck with wide-tired, low wheels, on which it can be moved from place to place. When the chapel is in position for service the heavy pole, to which six teams of horses or oxen have been attached, is taken out and stored under the building, its place being taken by broad steps leading to the front platform. Side boards are placed around the truck, giving the chapel the appearance of a permanent structure built on the ground. The entire edifice weighs about twelve tons, of which the truck weighs about two tons.

ONLY AUTHENTIC PICTURE OF LUTHER'S WIFE.

According to the Leipziger Illustrirte Zeitung, which, in its last number, on the occasion of the 400th anniversary of the birth of the great reformer's wife, publishes an interesting biography, this is a fac-simile of the only true portrait of her in existence.

Publishers' Column.

THE WHITE HOUSE COOK BOOK.

Probably the best cook book ever published in this country bears the above title. It is the most popular, has had the largest sale, and is the most practical one for general family use. The price—thousands have sold for two and three dollars each—has placed it beyond the reach of the majority of housekeepers. An edition has been issued in cheap form, with paper covers, containing the same information as the original. It is printed with large type, on good paper, and answers every purpose for use of the ordinary housewife. We have secured a few hundred copies, which we offer to Blade subscribers, postpaid by mail for 45 cents, or we will send a copy free to any person remitting us one dollar for the Weekly Blade one year, and asking for a copy of the book as a premium.

WATCHES BY MAIL.

The Blade offers its readers this season a new list of watches at less than ordinary retail prices, sent postpaid by mail on receipt of prices marked below. The list embraces two or three cheap but good watches, and three or four better grade of time keepers.

SPECIAL OFFER NO. 91.

Waltham or Elgin, $4.50.

Either nickel or gilt movement, as the subscriber may prefer. We offer these watches at the lowest prices ever known in the history of watch making. Made by the well known American Watch company, Waltham, Mass., and the great Elgin Watch Co.

The works contain all the latest improvements, 7 jewels, compensation balance, safety pinion and is stem winding and setting. Has a porcelain dial with Roman or Arabic figures, as desired. It is open face, with a heavy beveled glass crystal. The case is a high grade of compound metal, resembling sliver, and is made by the famous Dueber Watch Case Co. It is of the same material all the way through, and will therefore wear uniformly and preserve its color unchanged.

The price delivered by mail is only $4.50 for a watch that will keep perfect time and last a life time. We guarantee this watch to be exactly as represented.

THE KNICKERBOCKER.

A stem winder and stem setter, having all the modern appliances known to watchmakers' art. The case is solid nickel. It is made on the celebrated thin model plan. Remember, this is not a small clock, commonly called a watch by unscrupulous advertisers, but a highly jeweled nickel movement, made by one of the most celebrated watch manufacturers in America. It is guaranteed by the manufacturer, and if not found exactly as represented, this guarantee is assumed by us. A watch like this a generation ago would have cost $20, if it could have been produced, but the fact is it contains appliances unknown at that time. Each watch has been thoroughly adjusted, and will be set in perfect running order.

Price $2.00

LADIES' KNICKERBOCKER WATCH.

Stem wind and stem set; open face, nickel silver case, nickel movements, highly finished throughout. A perfect beauty. Retails for $5. We send postpaid by mail for $3.50.

WALTHAM HUNTING CASE.

This watch is the celebrated thin model watch—we mean by thin model that it does not bulge the pocket out of shape or give people the impression that you are carrying a clock movement. The case is made of two plates of solid gold, so thick that they will last fifteen years. Between these plates is a thin sheet of stiff composition metal, the purpose of which is to protect the works from damage when the watch is pressed or struck. The ring joints, thumb piece, and all parts subjected to constant wear are solid gold. The works contain compensation expansion balance, safety pinion, stem winding and pendant setting apparatus. The movement is made by the celebrated Waltham Watch Co., perfect in construction and durability. Hunting case only. Price, $15.00.

SOLID GOLD, LADIES' SIZE.

This watch is a handsomely engraved solid gold case, warranted 14k. U. S. assay. We use either Waltham or Elgin movements according to the wish of the purchaser. The works are jeweled and have compensating balance and safety pinion. This watch represents the triumph of modern expert workmanship.

Each watch is a stem winder and setter, and has a tempered hair spring. Price, $20.

NICKEL SILVER TABLE WARE.

It is Better Than Plated Stuff and Saves Much Worry.

We are now enabled to offer to subscribers of The Blade (and to subscribers only, remember,) teaspoons, dessert spoons, tablespoons and forks, made of composition known as nickel silver, which so closely resembles solid silver that on expert might be deceived. It is indestructible, does not tarnish so easily as solid silver from exposure to the air, and it is finished in the same manner as the solid silver goods. The patterns are not thicker than solid silver.

Prices.

They are sent by registered mail, postpaid, at the following prices:

1 dozen teaspoons	$1.25
½ dozen teaspoons	.85
1 dozen tablespoons or forks	2.35
½ dozen tablespoons or forks	1.35
1 dozen dessert spoons or forks	2.00
½ dozen dessert spoons or forks	1.15
½ dozen table knives	2.25
1 dozen table knives	4.25

These are made in only the one pattern. They are sent by express. There can be no variation from these offers. Only subscribers to The Blade can buy at these prices, but they can buy as much as they like.

Address with remittance in current funds,

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

CUT PAPER PATTERNS.

READ THE OFFER:

These patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose 10 cents silver for each pattern wanted (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds.) State both title and number of pattern.

Full description and directions—as the number of yards and material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by.

NO. 1512—WOODWARD WAIST.

Sizes for 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure. The Woodward" shows a cloth costume that is especially noticeable for its novel trimmings of silk, velvet and fur. The waist of castor broadcloth is cut with the shoulders projecting in bretelles over the sleeves. It is

close-fitting, and opens at the neck over a chemisette. The trimming, in waving bands, is of violet corded silk, deep castor velvet and mink fur. The chemisette is of silk, tucked, and the girdle and neck bow are of velvet. If preferred, braid trimming may be substituted for the fur. A special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which it is enclosed.

NO. 1507—SALISBURY COAT.

Sizes for 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure.—These long coats are very much worn for dressy occasions, when an outside wrap is required, for calling, concerts and carriage use. A charming example of this style of garment is given in the Salisbury. Black velvet is used in the model, lined with lavender and white Dresden silk, and trimmed with beaver fur. The vest, wide lapels, and flaring

collar are of fur. The effect of a circular flounce is given by black satin piping. This style cost is much used with a skirt to match, in fine cloths. It is a very becoming garment to stout elderly women, but is worn by slender young women as well. A special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which it is enclosed.

NO. 1506—ERIC SHIRT WAIST.

Sizes for 8, 10 and 12 years. The "Eric" is intended for boys of 8, 10 and 12 years, who have not yet achieved the dignity of a regular man's shirt, but who are old enough to require, or at least desire, some garment more dressy than the usu-

al tucked or plaited waist; then is added a linen shirt bosom, which is intended to be stiffly starched in the most grown-up fashion. There are also adjustable linen collars and cuffs. The shirt is made to open in the back, the holes in front being intended for small studs. A special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which it is enclosed.

DO NOT FAIL to give the NUMBER of pattern, and MEASUREMENTS. It will save trouble and delay.

NO. 1521—BETTINA FROCK.

Sizes for 4, 6 and 8 years. The Bettina frock is a comfortable little house frock for girls of 4, 6 and 8 years. The waist is a circular blouse back and front, that is, it is fuller at the waist line than at the

bust. It opens at the neck over a round yoke, that may be faced on the lining, or over a separate guimpe, as is preferred. The collar, sleeves and hem of the circular skirt are trimmed with perpendicular bands of narrow ribbon, caught with buttons. A special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which it is enclosed.

TOO RARE FOR WOMEN.

Here is a story told by Rudyard Kipling: His father, John Kipling, went to pay a visit to an Indian rajah, who was about to bring home a queen. The elder Kipling had been engaged in the decoration of the palace, and its owner showed him the gifts of stuffs and perfumes he had procured for his coming spouse. The rajah also sent for his jewel caskets, and asked Mr. Kipling to assist him in selecting the gems to be included in the marriage gifts. They were of extraordinary size and value, such gems as are seldom seen except in the east, and to the artist the selection was a pleasure. Finally he lifted a wonderful diamond, one of the choicest gems in the collection, and said: "You should send this. No woman could resist it." The rajah looked up, caught it and held it jealously to his breast. Then slowly replacing it in the casket, he answered: "Nay, such gems are not for women."

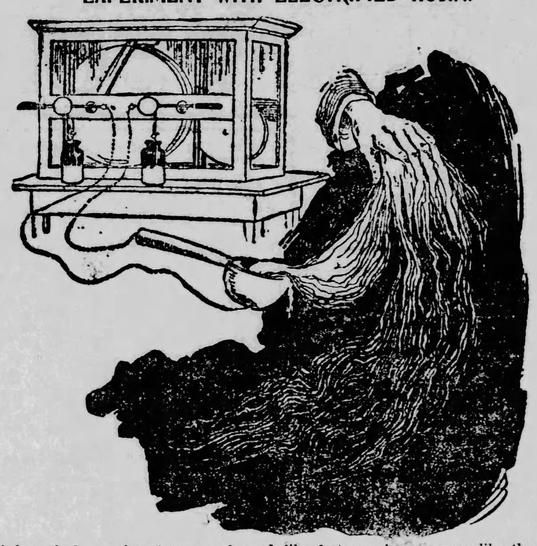
A NEW PENSION LIST.

Both houses of Congress have passed the pension appropriation bill substantially as submitted. This is the largest of all national appropriations. A year ago it was figured out just how much longer these appropriations would have to be made, and it was carefully reckoned when the last beneficiary would have passed away.

A war has since intervened. It is too early to discuss the amount that its consequences will add to our pension list, but it is safe for the statisticians to set many years forward the date of extinction of our last obligation on this score.

The total pension disbursements of last year were $144,651,879, and the appropriation of this year amounts to $145,-233,830. In 1894 the total reached over $166,500,000, or much more than half of the whole cost of running the government. There has since been a gradual decrease; but the events of 1898 will change the current the other way.

EXPERIMENT WITH ELECTRIFIED ROSIN.



A beautiful experiment was performed recently by Professor McNutt, of Bethlehem, Pa. Any boy may perform the feat if he has access to a glass plate electrical machine, such as may be found in any school. Done before a room full of persons, the performance is quite spectacular, as it would seem for the moment as though the experimenter possessed some magnetic quality of his own.

Professor McNutt heated a lot of rosin in an iron ladle. Ordinarily, if he tipped over the ladle the molten rosin would spread over the floor like any liquid. Before spilling the rosin, however, he connected the ladle with an electric machine by means of two wires, one of which was attached to the handle and the other was tied to a hook under the bowl of the ladle. The object, of course, was to electrify the rosin. Now, the effect of this electrification was to produce a surface tension in the liquid rosin which apparently in the end overcame the natural action of gravity which the earth ordinarily would have on the liquid.

When Professor McNutt attempted to empty his ladleful of molter rosin, it first reached downward in long, graceful, lace like festoons, in a manner like the more delicate stalactites of a limestone cave. Then, under the electrical attractive influence of the human body standing near each festoon curved its end upward, swan-like, toward the professor's hand, stretched over to receive it. The streamers covered his hand as with a mantle of filmy lace, and then hung down toward the floor again like a curtain. In a moment they became as hard as the air of the room acted upon them.

This experiment is very easy to perform and may be made the basis for constructing some beautiful ornaments. For instance, it would have been easy for Professor McNutt to have held his hand just above a small statuette like, for instance, that celebrated one called The Diver. The festoon would then have fallen down gracefully over the diver's form and would have seemed like streaming water. Or the beautiful streamers might be caused to fall down in front of picture frames, showing the picture as beneath a transparent veil. Christmas trees might be festooned with it, while its artistic possibilities for church and for show window decoration are enormous. Of course, when the sun strikes the semi-transparent streamers of rosin, their brilliancy is much heightened.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

LARGEST AND SMALLEST BOOKS.

Probably the tiniest book owned in Chicago is a little Bible about an inch and a quarter long by three-quarters of an inch wide. It is a curious little volume, bound in a dainty covering of dark blue leather fancifully striped in gold and containing a complete copy of the old and the new testaments, every verse being printed in the most perfect of fine letters. Indeed, so very fine is the printing that a tiny magnifying glass is inserted in a small pocket attached to the rear cover for the service of the reader daring enough to care to endanger his eyesight by reading his Scriptural texts from the tiny leaves.

Contrasting forcibly with the small Bible is the largest book in Chicago, owned by the Newberry library, a copy of the "Carte Topographique de l'Egypt," by Mr. Jacotin, a volume belonging to the celebrated "Description of Egypt," compiled at the command of imperious Napoleon after his invasion of the African territory. The work bears the date of 1805. It is bound in dark green leather and measures nearly five feet long and about two and a half feet wide. With its two sister volumes it reclines on a mammoth table in the fisheries room on the fourth floor of the Newberry library.—Chicago Chronicle.

News of the Week.

WASHINGTON.

REPORT FAVORS HANNA.

The Ohio Investigation Did Not Prove Bribery.

Washington, March 1.—Senator Chandler, from the committee on privileges and elections, yesterday presented to the senate the report of that committee on charges of bribery in the election to be senate of Hon. M. A. Hanna as made by the Ohio senate. The reports sets out that no direct remonstrance setting out that Mr. Hanna was not elected or ought to be expelled from the senate had been received by the senate. It also shows that no one has appeared before the committee, and that no papers have been received beyond the formal report of the action in the state senate. Notwithstanding, these failures the committee has investigated the charges. It finds that "there is no proof submitted either that (1) Mr. Hanna was elected senator through bribery or (2) that he had any agents engaged in carrying on his canvass for the senate who were directly or impliedly authorized by him to resort to corrupt methods or to any form of wrong doing; or (3) that he had any personal knowledge of the facts of the Otis case. It may be said that there is no evidence which fairly tends to prove either of the foregoing propositions."

In view of these facts, the committee on privileges and election have reached the conclusion that the United States senate is not called upon to take action in the premises.

"The utmost facts that the report from the state senate claims to have proved," the report continues, "is that an attempt was made to bribe Mr. Otis which, failed. Without further facts than this, the validity of Mr. Hanna's election will stand unimpeached and the senate is not called upon to search for further facts in the absence of any specification of such facts or of any distinct suggestion where they may be found, the whole demand of the state senate report that Mr. Hanna be expelled from the United States senate being rested on the Otis case. Whether even if this unsuccessful attempt at bribery in the case of Representative Otis were fastened upon the representatives of Senator Hanna by undoubted proof, the senate would be called upon to take any action, is not by any means clear. Certainly, without strong evidence that Senator Hanna himself had knowledge of the transaction, the senate would hardly be justified in doing more than exposing the facts for condemnation by public opinion, and the expose of such facts as the state senate say were proved, has already been accepted by the state senate report, while there is no direct evidence that Senator Hanna had any knowledge of what was going on."

The remainder of the report is devoted to giving the committee reasons for not taking testimony in the case, which are summed up in this sentence from it:

"To go over the whole ground covered by the state senate merely for the purpose of additional exposure would be tedious, expensive and unnecessary."

The point is also made that there is no suggestion of bribery beyond the Otis case, and it is shown that Otis never did vote for Hanna.

ARMY REORGANIZATION.

Plans for Carrying Out the New Law.

Washington, March 3.—A great deal of hard work will be required of the war department in changing the army establishment as contemplated by the bill which has just become a law. Especially will this be the case in the adjutant-general's office, which will supervise the muster out of the existing volunteer army and the recruiting and muster in of the 35,000 men for the new volunteer branch, together with such recruiting as will be necessary to bring the regular establishment up to its required strength. The present volunteer regiments will be formally mustered out of the service but the expectation is that many of the men after paying a visit to their homes will again enlist so that this branch will have for its nucleus much of the present element composing it. Some of the organizations may determine to go in body but the understanding is that each man will be free to exercise his own will as to remaining—in other words there is to be nothing savoring of conscription.

The newly recruited volunteers will not have state designations but will be called volunteer regiments of infantry and cavalry respectively, organizations in each arm of the service being numbered from one up. The colonels are to be appointed by the President. Large numbers of soldiers who enlisted in the regular army at the beginning of the war with Spain took advantage of that provision which permitted their discharge after hostilities had ceased and the estimate is made that probably 400 to 500 is average of those who left each regiment. Reports received at the adjutant general's office show, however, that a good percentage of them have re-enlisted for the full term of army service. At their discharge they received certain pay, travel and other allowances and having spent their money and had a rest and visit to their homes were again satisfied to enlist. The department is filling the regular army regiments sent to the Philippines with full service men, this precaution being taken to avoid the necessity of transporting home such as elect to take advantage of the law permitting their discharge at the close of the war.

GERMANY FRIENDLY.

Warships Will No Longer Be Objects of Suspicion.

Washington, March 1.—Substantial evidences of Germany's desire to maintain and improve the friendly relations existing between the Washington and Berlin governments has been furnished to the state department.

At the request of Germany, the United States has consented to protect German subjects and interests in the Philippines and Samoa, and, relying upon the promise of this government, German warships have been withdrawn from those points.

In compliance with the German request, cable instructions have been sent to Rear Admiral Dewey and Gen. Otis, informing them that hereafter German subjects and interests in the Philippines must be provided with protection by American ships and American troops.

It is apparent to the authorities that the Berlin government in making the requests indicated, was impressed by a sincere desire to impress upon the government and people of the United States the fact of her friendliness for this nation, and to prevent in future all talk of prospective German interference in American affairs or any intention to take action which might be distasteful to the United States.

There is no doubt that Germany was greatly surprised at the interpretation placed in some quarters here on the dispatch from Admiral Dewey relating that for "political reasons" he desired the battleship Oregon should be sent to Manila at once, and there is practically little doubt that it was this interpretation and the comments which followed that caused her to take heroic measures and place her interests and subjects under the protection of the United States.

With German's attitude so plainly defined, the authorities now assert with every confidence that there is absolutely no danger of foreign interference in the Philippines.

Instructions to Manila.

Washington, March 1.—To carry out the President's promise relative to the protection of German residents and property in the Philippines a cable dispatch has been sent to Admiral Dewey and one to Gen. Otis instructing them on that point. The published statement in certain newspapers that the German proposition included the extension of the protection of the United States over German interests in the Samoan group, it is said at the State department, is erroneous. The German ambassador's proposition touched only the Philippines. The treaty of Berlin imposes upon the three treaty powers which undertook the government of Samoa the duty of maintaining one or more warships there at intervals, and the protocols to the treaty show that no matter what might be the nationality of the vessel, that happens to be on the station, in the event of trouble she was to protect the interests of all three treaty powers without discrimination. That was the position taken by Capt. Sturdy, of the British cruiser Porpoise, when he came to the assistance of the American chief justice at Apia during the recent disturbances. He held that the treaty required him to protect any nationality. If the German cruiser Falke leaves Apia a British or American war vessel that might happen to be there afterward, either the Porpoise or the Philadelphia, would be under treaty obligation to protect Germans subjects and interests.

IMMENSE EXPORTS.

American Manufacturers Are Making a Record.

Washington, March 2.—American manufacturers seem likely to make their greatest record in the fiscal year which ends four months hence. The reports of the treasury bureau of statistics covering seven months of the fiscal year show that the exportation of domestic manufactures is $223,000,000 greater than the highest record ever before made in the corresponding months of the fiscal year. During the seven months ending February 1, 1899, the exports of domestic manufactures amounted to $182,336,503 or an average of a million dollars a day for every business day of that period.

Not only are the manufacturers increasing their sales in foreign markets, but they are evidently supplying to a greater extent than ever before the home market. The imports of manufacturers in the seven months under consideration amount to only $147,200,972, or $35,000,000 less than the manufacturers exported. The exports of manufactures during the past seven months have been nearly 25 per cent greater than the imports of manufactures.

Comparing conditions with those of a decade ago, the evidence of gain by our manufacturers is even more striking. In the seven months ending February 1, 1889, our exports of manufactures were $78,751,933; in the seven months ending February 1, 1899, they were $182,336,503, an increase of 131 per cent in the exports of manufactures during the decade. On the other hand, imports of manufactures in the decade have fallen 23 per cent, despite the fact that the consuming population has meantime increased 25 per cent, the imports of manufactures in the seven months ending February 1, 1889, having been $194,996,778, against $147,200,972 in the corresponding seven months ending February 1, 1899.

A decade ago the imports of manufactures were more than double the exports of manufactures; now the exports of manufactures are 25 per cent greater than the imports of manufactures, despite the fact that the home demand for manufactures increased 25 per cent through a 25 per cent increase in population. In the seven months ending February 1, 1889, imports of manufactures were 147 per cent greater than the exports of manufactures; in the seven months ending February 1, 1899, they are 20 per cent below the exports of manufactures.

Comparing the seven months of the fiscal year ending February 1, 1899, with the corresponding months of 1889, it is found that exports of manufactures increased 131 per cent, while the total exports, including manufactures, increased only 65 per cent, and the exports of all articles except manufactures, but 51 per cent. It is thus apparent that despite the unusual foreign demand for our agricultural products, the manufactures are making a more rapid gain in their exports than are any other class of our producers.

DEWEY AN ADMIRAL.

Bill Has Passed Both Branches of Congress.

Washington, March 2.—Within the next forty-eight hours Rear Admiral Dewey will run up on the Olympia a blue flag containing four white stars—the flag of a full admiral of the United States navy.

By a unanimous vote of the House of Representatives yesterday the bill, already passed by the Senate, which authorized the President to appoint by selection and promotion an admiral was agreed to. The bill was signed by the President as soon as it reached him and Admiral Dewey will be notified of his promotion by cable.

This will have the effect of making Admiral Dewey as high in rank as any naval officer in the world. It makes him outrank not only all officers of the United States navy, but all officers of the United States army as well, for there is no officer in the army higher than a major general, which is the grade corresponding with rear admiral in the navy.

The bill is also of importance politically, for it thus enables Admiral Dewey to realize his highest ambition—that of being promoted by a special act of Congress to the highest grade of naval command. Though he was not before a Presidential candidate and had declined to allow his name to be used in connection with the nomination, it is more than ever assured now that he will not seek political honors.

There is some question at the Navy department and in Congress as to whether additional legislation will not be required to enable Admiral Dewey to draw the pay of an admiral. The matter will be looked into and if it is found that legislation is necessary a joint resolution or a special bill will be rushed through Congress before adjournment. Admiral Dewey will receive $13,500 a year.

APPROPRIATIONS.

Official Statement Given Out by Chairman Cannon.

Washington, March 6.—The official statement of Representative Cannon, of Illinois, chairman of the house appropriations committee, summing up the appropriations of the fifty-first congress is as follows:

"The appropriations made at the session of congress just closed amount, approximately to $873,058,300, and show an apparent reduction of $219,573,000 under the appropriations made at the preceding session.

"This is attributable to the large expenditures occasioned by the war with Spain that were provided for during the preceding session.

"The entire appropriations made by the fifty-fifth congress aggregate $1,566,890,016.28. Of this sum $482,562,083.47 is directly chargeable to our late war with Spain or incident thereto. Deducting this charge from the whole amount of the appropriations, the remainder, $1,034,327,-632.71, represents the ordinary or normal appropriations made by the fifty-fifth congress. The appropriations made by the preceding congress, fifty-fourth, amounted to $1,044,580,273.83. A comparison shows an increase in ordinary appropriations made by this congress over those made by that congress, fifty-fourth, of $39,747,000 but this apparent increase is more than accounted for by increase under eight items alone, namely, for pensions, $4,000,000; for the postal service, $16,000,000; for rivers and harbors, including work under contracts previously authorized, $3,000,000; for new ships for the navy, $6,000,000; for beginning the work of the twelfth census, $1,000,000; for the Paris exposition, $1,200,000; for new public buildings, including the building for the department of justice and for site and partial construction of new government printing office, about $5,000,000 and for payment of judgments rendered against the government on account of French spoliations and under the Bowman act, $3,100,000. These very natural and necessary increases in public expenditures, account of the pension list, growth of postal service in response to the demands of commerce, the improvement of the great waterways of the country, and for increase of the navy, the construction of needed buildings to accommodate the government service in cities of the country, the taking of the census, the participation of the nation in the great exposition to be held at Paris next year, and the payment of the French spoliation judgments and Bowman act cases so long considered by and pressed upon congress, aggregate $39,900,000—more than dissipating the entire apparent increase in the ordinary appropriations by this congress over those made by the fifty-fourth congress.

"In addition to the direct appropriations made at this session contracts were authorized, subject to future appropriations to be made, amounting to about $70,000,000. Of this amount $44,000,000 is for additional ships for the navy, $22,500,000 is for work on rivers and harbors and something over $3,000,000 is for public buildings.

"The contract system is of necessity applied to the construction of new warships for a period of years for their construction. In the case of the river and harbor improvements and the construction of public buildings, experience has shown that the authorization of contracts tends materially to expedite and cheapen the same."

PUBLIC DEBT.

Statement of the Treasury for the Month of February.

Washington, March 2.—The monthly statement of the public debt shows that at the close of business on February 28, 1899, the debt, less cash in the treasury was $1,157,904,291, an increase during the month of $5,279,041. This increase is accounted for by a corresponding increase in the cash. The total debt is $1,-[illegible]

[illegible] does not include $555,508,513 in certificates and treasury notes offset by an equal amount of cash in the treasury.

The total cash in the treasury is $[illegible]

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Swamp-Root has been tested in so many ways in hospital work, in private practice, among the helpless too poor to purchase relief, and has proved so successful in every case that a special arrangement has been made by which all readers of The Toledo Weekly Blade, who have not already tried it, may have a sample bottle sent absolutely free by mail. Also a book telling more about Swamp-Root and containing some of the thousands upon thousands of testimonial letters received from men and women who owe their good health, in fact, their very lives, to the wonderful curative properties of Swamp-Root. Be sure and mention the Toledo Weekly Blade when sending your address to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

If you are already convinced that Swamp-Root is what you need, you can purchase the regular fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles at drug stores.

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Finest large High Arm head, positive four motion feed, self threading vibrating shuttle, automatic bobbin winder, adjustable bobbin, patented lamp, self lifter, improved loose wheel, automatic tension release, four improved shuttle carrier, patented needle bar, automatic lift, the finest, most highly decorated and ornamented head handle in the world. NICKEL TRIMMED.

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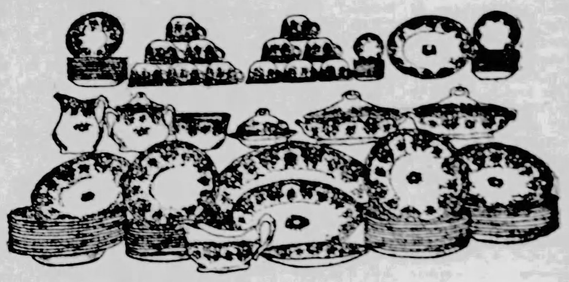
The Best Goods That Money Can Buy.

During the past few years The Blade has furnished its subscribers nearly 20,000 sets of American made china at an enormous saving of cost to the purchaser. With the return of prosperity there is a demand for better goods, from our class of readers who realize that the best is the cheapest, even though the first cost may be a trifle more. We have therefore arranged for a special importation of the following described assortments, selecting for this purpose not cheap "scheme" goods which we can buy for almost half the price, but the very best ware obtainable, and the very latest patterns and designs. These goods cannot be found in interior towns, and if our readers had the advantage of the Chicago or New York market, they would have to pay fully fifty per cent more than our prices. Remember our prices include a copy of the Weekly Blade one year, so the purchaser, even after paying freight, is in possession of the handsomest set that ever graced a table, and at one-third less than ordinary retail prices. It will be noticed that we ask more than our old list price for American goods, but relatively they are cheaper. These goods are worth more than double those we formerly sold—English ware is lighter, stronger, better color, will not crackle, next in value to French China, and more serviceable. The decorations are under the glaze, and will never wear off. We offer both plain white and decorated. We especially recommend the white, as there is nothing so handsome as plain white china on the table of either rich or poor. To those who like decorations our selection of blue illuminated with gold will please the most fastidious. It is very rich and in the latest style. Our Blade man is in this week with a few of the plain white goods one week, and the decorated each alternate week.



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No. 1—TEA SET, 80 PIECES—12 breakfast plates, 12 tea plates, 12 tea cups, 12 saucers, 12 fruit dishes, 12 individual butter dishes, 2 cake plates, 1 sugar bowl, 1 cover, 1 cream pitcher, 1 water pitcher, 1 pickle dish and 1 bowl.

Price, including Weekly Blade one year, white porcelain, $5.00; blue and gilt, $6.00.

No. 2—TEA SET, 56 PIECES—Assorted same as No. 1, deducting 12 breakfast plates and 12 individual butter plates.

Price, including Weekly Blade one year, white porcelain, $3.10; blue and gilt, $4.00.

No. 3—DINNER SET, 112 PIECES. 12 8-inch plates, 12 7-inch plates, 12 6-inch plates, 12 soup plates, 12 fruit plates, 12 individual butter dishes, 2 dishes, 1 baker, 1 boat, 1 pickle, 2 dishes and 2 covers, 1 butter dish, 1 cover and 1 strainer, 1 sugar bowl and 1 cover, 1 cream pitcher, 1 bowl, 12 tea cups and 12 saucers.

Price, including Weekly Blade one year; white porcelain, $9.10; blue and gilt, $11.60.

General Directions and Information.

Order by number, and specify white or decorated, as the case may be. The goods are carefully packed in a strong barrel, and shipped directly from the importer to the purchaser upon our order. We shall order every package shipped by freight unless otherwise instructed. The receiver pays transportation. From 25 cents to $1, according to distance, will cover freight east of the Missouri river, while it may cost somewhere near $2 to pay freight to points beyond the Rockies. We do not advise shipping by express. Always remit by postoffice money order. If you must send currency, have your letter registered. Address,

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LORD HERSCHELL DEAD.

Result of a Fall On a Slippery Sidewalk.

Washington, March 1.—Lord Herschell, one of the high joint commissioners from Great Britain, died here at 7 o'clock this morning.

Lord Herschell fell on a slippery sidewalk and broke one of the pelvic bones several weeks ago and this finally caused his death.

Lord Herschell was Lord Chancellor of Great Britain and was sent to the United States because of his eminent attainments to take a leading part in the negotiations designed to settle all existing differences between the United States and Canada. During the wintry weather when the sidewalks were slippery he fell heavily as he was about to get into his carriage and broke one of the pelvic bones. He seemed to be progressing favorably towards recovery and was in good health comparatively, until about 7 o'clock this morning, when he was suddenly stricken with heart failure. Doctor W. W. Johnson was summoned and responded at once. He saw at a glance that the case was a desperate one and called Dr. Maddox in consultation. The two doctors, two nurses and Lord Herschell's two secretaries, W. C. Cartwright and Hedworth Williamson, were with him when he died an half hour later. Death occurred at the Shoreham Hotel, where Lord Herschell had been staying since coming to Washington some months ago.

Farrer Herschell, first baron of that name, one of the high joint commissioners from Great Britain on the Anglo-American-Canadian joint commission, recently in session at Washington, whose death occurred in that city to-day, was born November 2, 1837. He was a son of the late Rev. Ridley Herschell, of London and Helen, daughter of William Mowbray, of Edinburg. He married in 1870, Agnes, third daughter of Edward Leigh Kinderseley. They have one son and two daughters living.

Baron Herschell was a privy councilor, a knight of the Grand Cross of Bath, doctor of civil law, doctor of laws, a deputy lieutenant for Kent and Durham, a justice of the peace, captain of Deal Castle, chancellor of London University, and was appointed British member of the Venezuela and British Guiana boundary arbitration tribunal in 1897. He was knighted in 1880 and was created a peer in 1886.

Lord Herschell was educated at London University, where he graduated bachelor of arts with classical honors. He became a barrister of Lincoln's Inn in 1860, queen's counsel in 1872, bencher of Lincoln's Inn in 1872, recorder of certain cities from 1873 to 1880, solicitor general from 1880 to 1885, and was lord high chancellor in 1886 and from 1892 to 1895.

DIRECTOR OF CENSUS.

Former Governor Merriam, of Minnesota, Gets the Place.

Washington, March 4.—During the last hours of Congress William R. Merriam, of Minnesota, was nominated by the President to be director of the census. The Senate confirmed the nomination.

The Senate also confirmed the nomination of Hon. Walter Evans to be district judge in Kentucky.

The President appointed and the Senate confirmed to-day George M. Stewart to be postmaster at Seattle, Wash. The senate also confirmed the marine corps nominations to-day.

Barrows Not Confirmed.

Washington, March 4.—The nomination of Representative Barrows, of Massachusetts, to be librarian of congress, failed of confirmation; both Massachusetts senators opposing him.

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THE HOUSEHOLD

EDITED BY EMILY S. BOUTON

THE BISHOP AND THE BABY.

A poor little pale-faced baby,
Lost and hungry and cold,
With the chill wind pinching her tear-wet cheeks
And ruffling her bright hair's gold.

For just when the busy people
Were hurrying here and yon,
Buying their gifts for the Christmas tree,
Her mother was suddenly gone.

She did not cry, poor midget,
But lifted pitiful eyes
At the crowds of careless strangers,
At the gray indifferent skies.

Jostled and pushed and frightened,
A tiny waif of the street,
With the wintry darkness falling,
And the snow-flakes gathering fleet.

She was seen by a great kind giant;
With swinging stride he came,
Even then the angels in heaven
Wrote Saint before his name.

From the height of his splendid stature
He stooped to the little maid,
Lifted her up in tender arms,
And bade her not be afraid.

Against his broad breast nestled,
She clung like a soft spring flower
That a breeze had caught and carried
To a strong and sheltering tower.

In his thick warm cloak he wrapped her,
The little shivering child.
"I'll find your mother, baby,"
The bishop said, and smiled.

That smile like a flesh of the sunrise—
'Tis but a memory dim,
For the years are hasting onward,
And we are mourning him.

The white cold snows are drifting
Where to-day he lies asleep.
After his life's long warfare
The soldier's rest is deep.

But of dear things said about him,
Of victories that he won,
No sweeter tale is told than this,
Of his grace to a little one.

—Margaret J. Sangster.

COURAGE VS. FEAR

A very good lesson is taught by the following fable:

"A mouse was so distressed by fear of a cat that a pitying magician turned it into a cat. Then it feared a dog, and he turned it into a dog. Next came fear of a tiger, and the dog was made a tiger, but it only exclaimed: 'Oh, those terrible hunters!' 'Be a mouse again,' said the magician; 'you have only the heart of a mouse, so I cannot help you by giving you the body of a nobler animal.'"

The world is very apt to despise a coward unless it is in the person of some gentle little woman or a child, and it is condoned in them only because they are unable to defend themselves. The whole being thrills to a noble act like this which I found in a newspaper:

"Have you got the powder out?" asked Fire-Chief Grady, of Boston. "We can't," was the answer. "Well, I can," cried the brave man. With Lieutenant Taber he dashed in. For twenty minutes they swung their axes, while others held their breath, or fled in fear, and then they brought out a copper chest, already hot, containing enough powder to blow the block to the skies. They turned the hose on it, and then coolly went on with their work modestly, as if they did not wear a halo of glory.

No one could imagine for a moment that these men did not know the peril they were in during these few fateful moments, but their sense of duty was stronger than their fear. And true courage is never a braggart. A glorious deed like that—greater than facing the enemy upon the battle-field—challenges the best there is in the nature, for into it enters the question of the good of others. There is something higher and nobler in it than mere physical courage.

Fear paralyzes the powers. It takes away the ability to act to a purpose. It is a disintegrating force that saps the very fountains of life, and indulged weakens the whole character.

How can one help being afraid?

By never yielding to fear. By refusing to allow it to be a governing power. I remember reading the story of a leader of men, a soldier, who said that in his childhood he was physically afraid of everything. He had a strong will, and deliberately resolved to do whatever he felt afraid to undertake. And he conquered himself, as he was sure to, by thus fearing nothing so much as to be afraid. And if children were trained wisely to courage instead of being taught fear there would be less cowardice in the world.

If you are afraid to go into the dark alone, then; when the necessity arises, compel yourself to go. If you are afraid of dogs habituate yourself to their presence, even if to do it one must be adopted in the family, until the fear is gone. And so with all of these personal expectations of evil which by indulgence are intensified until they limit and cramp the very life.

Of course there is a daring that is foolhardiness, by which there is no gain and may be a terrible loss. Yet I doubt whether as a whole the loss can equal those made by persistent fear, which so often prevents the doing in the best way what is necessary to be done, and upon which sometimes the prevention of great disasters may hinge.

Courage reaches its real heights only when it is inspired by the moral sense of responsibility. It does not always lie in action, for frenzied fear may produce that, while the utmost self-control is required to hold oneself in steady inactivity. The deed that thrills most is that marked by forgetfulness of self which prompts the heroic act even when the body shrinks with dread. And this moral courage comes by training, and is the same in quality as that which holds the soul firmly to its perception of truth in the face of ridicule, contumely and persecution. It comes from discarding fear of results when the right is perceived even though it is found to lead into a path apart from the "madding crowd" which sees only the surface of things and knows not the inner motive.

It matters little what one is afraid of—he is a slave so long as the fear is allowed to limit and control the action. Freedom comes only when that which is dreaded is boldly faced and its power defied, not in words perhaps, but in spirit, not in anger but in the resolve to possess oneself in wholeness. Then only are the really great deeds possible—either those which demand brave outward action or the heroism that silently endures what may be worse than bodily pain or physical death. And the winning of this freedom is possible to us all, and is well worth the necessary striving.

The result of such striving and overcoming is described in these beautiful words by Charles Johnston: "Weary of this haunting dread, and the craven cruelty it brings, we stand upright at last, and conquer fear. Better be free even for a moment, and then death, and the nethermost hell, than this creeping dread any longer. That moment of battle brings not death and the dark, but light and power; the descending benediction of our Genius, and whispers of courage and immortal hope."

In a little poem to Ruskin, written by R. R. Bowker and published some months ago in The Century, are these fine lines:

"O seer and sage
Crowned with wild olive, fine of sense and sight,
In thy prophetic voice, through work, trade, strife,
The stones cry out: 'By truth the nations live,
And by injustice die. Be thy weights right,
Thy measures true. These be the lamps that give
The way of beauty and the path of life."

The thought expressed in this tribute to the spirit pervading all of Ruskin's work is as true of individuals as of nations. It is not simply an abstract statement that "by truth the nations live, and by injustice die," but a fact in nature which cannot be denied. To just the degree a people live toward their highest ideals, those which embody "truth" to them, to just that extent do they have vitality, and the power to progress, and the force to hold what is theirs. History, read aright, will show that this has been proved over and over again. Nations die when they become corrupt and forgetful of the higher aims which have been theirs. For these were not simply intellectual truths they held, but they belonged to the deeper things of life, having their origin in the Divinity that is in the hearts of all people. The prosperity of the United States had its root in the sense of justice which possessed the founders of the government, and its prosperity will continue just in proportion as it holds fast to Truth in this real sense.

"Be thy weights right, thy measures true."

Apply the same principle to the day by day individual life. We cannot afford to live lower than the best which is within our knowledge and strength. We cannot afford to knowingly make 'our measures" untrue. Yet this is what we do when we refuse to listen to the inner voice which always speaks if we but "open our ears to hear." For it is that voice which tells us what are right weights, what are true measures, and these are in reality—

"The lamps that give
The way of beauty and the path of life."

EMILY S. BOUTON.

LIFE'S GATEWAYS.

It is a book for every-day use, to help the reader to meet the ills of life bravely, and to gain true success. It may be had, with a year's subscription to the Weekly Blade, by sending $1.25 to Miss Emily S. Bouton, Toledo, O.

The Cozy-Corner

Written for The Cozy Corner.

LIFE'S REASON.

Live for those who need thy care,
Those whose burdens thou mayst bear;
If discouraged thou shouldst be,
Think of one who needeth thee.
When thy life seems all in vain,
And thy love but cause for pain,
Be to some one such a friend
That on thee their joys depend,
So if thou canst feel and know
That to thee some others owe
Love, because of lessened pain,
Then thy life is not in vain.
And thou wilt feel that thou must live,
For the help thy life will give.

—Mrs. D.

A Coyote Woman writes as follows: I can sympathize with the mothers who have some little empty chairs, for I, too, have had one, but is it not strange as the years pass, how soon we can believe it was all for the best, and not one of us wish our darlings back again?

Does sorrow and trouble make us better? Sometimes I think it hardens us, but I suppose it is beneficial, since when everything goes right we are apt to think it is owing to our own efforts.

It is a trying time when the house is small and the children many. Let me tell you a few of my ways to keep a little peace. They have a swing fastened in the doorway between two rooms, and amuse each other there for hours.

I give them the scissors and let them cut pictures from old catalogues and papers. This they do in the kitchen, picking up all the litter they make and hanging up the shears when they have finished using them. Pencils and paper keeps them busy for awhile. For this I save all the nice paper that comes around parcels, and I have them go to bed at 7 o'clock, so we can have a good, long evening for work or reading, and as they are apt to be cross and tired in the evening, they are better off in bed.

Try to impress them with the idea that they are good and willing to help you, and never tell them that they are of no use.

Don't throw away your baking powder cans; they make good potato-choppers and biscuit-cutters. Take out the bottom and slip the can over your dasher when you churn, and the cream will not spatter. I chopped my cabbage and tomatoes for pickalilly with a baking powder can!

Twin Sister writes: I cannot approve of too much telling of the goodness of husband or wife. A little now and then may do, but do not overdraw the picture. If either is so good, is it not enough that the other knows it? Let them love and praise each other in their own little world, and by their deeds others will understand the fact if he or she be a good companion. And do not mention your companion's fault, for did you not take him for better or worse?

Mrs. S. D. says, from her own experience: An ideal home life is not an impossibility, as many seem to think, but it requires time and patience—time during courtship to form a correct estimate of your sweetheart's character and disposition, and patience after marriage to overcome the little trifles, which, light as air, in themselves seem to have no significance, but that, nevertheless, wreck so many homes.

To the women who have made a failure of their marriage, I would say, do not sit down and weep over it, but turn it to account for your own good. I can look back to a time in my own life when I thought I should sink under a burden I was called upon to bear, but I lived through it, and to-day I can truthfully say I needed just that certain trouble to mold my character, and that the experience taught me to curb a most unruly temper.

So, perhaps, if you look into your own especial case, you will find that it was not only for the best, but that you have actually derived some good from it also.

Life's Gateways.—I have read it the top of the page, and in the middle of the page, and last night I read it at the bottom of the page, with a shudder and the thought that life's gateways have all been closed to me. Ihave tried to enter the professions, but somebody bars me there, so I toil on without compensation. Please send me a good hard soap recipe, for I must still wash and scrub.—Crisp.

Fairy Flora drops in from the M. G. R. with a few bright words. I crave pardon if I intrude, but I wish to tell Young Mother that Ralph, Lyle, Clyde, Guy and Dee are prettty names of one syllable.

I would like to say to Mrs. J. H. A., that I do not think any really nice girl will chew gum. I never see one with her mouth full of gum without thinking of the following verse:

How doth the busy little girl
Improve each shining hour?
By chewing slabs of Tolu gum
With all her jawful power.
How cunningly she wads it up,
Then turns it o'er and o'er,
Shifts it from port to larboard side,
Then chews it more and more!

Rosalee sends Young Mother the following list of names for her baby boy: Lynn, Vane, Lorn, Faye, Clay, Doane, Mark and Burn.

Lonely Pine Tree asks for the words of a song beginning: "Be Kind to Mother, Boys, When I am Dead and Gone." She asks this question of the Household mothers: "What do you think of parents who encourage their boys in killing snow birds and sparrows simply 'for fun?'"

School Girl: Your questions are all right; concerning the quotation the editor has not time to look it up just now, but the expression "Betwixt and between," etc., probably originated from the legend to the effect that Mahomet's coffin was suspended between heaven and earth.

I. O. G. T. asks for the song entitled "Erond's Green Shore."

E. M. has this to say: O, the conceit of some of these bachelors! They fondly imagine they could have had the best woman they ever knew just for the asking, if they had only thought about it in time! They seldom ask themselves if they are pure and good as she, and therefore worthy of her.

Instead of marrying and raising a family doing their whole duty to mankind in general and to themselves and one woman in particular, they pick at the minor flaws in this, that and the other, in the meantime perhaps, sponging in the house of some relative who has had the moral courage to establish and maintain a home.

Neither do they consider the extra work they make for the aunt, sister or brother's wife upon whom they inflict themselves. I once knew a young wife who had several bachelor relatives who made her home their headquarters when they were out of work, two or three of them often being there at the same time. This extra burden on her already heavily laden shoulders, was undoubtedly the indirect cause of her death.

Let those who are too indolent or too choice to make a home for themselves, board where boarders are wanted.

Truly, maintaining a family is no sinecure, but the wife bears fully half the burden. An ideal home is not only feasible, but is attained by many. Of course it is necessary that both rightly understand and conscientiously try to perform their whole duty.

The two bears—bear and forbear—and the cherishing of a pure and true love, will go a long way towards securing this happy result.

Some one has said, and it has been often quoted, that love is blind. I think this is a mistake, for he can see beauty and virtue in the loved one that others fail entirely to discover.

M. E., I am right glad that I scared you out of your retreat with my war paint and feathers, and hope that such severe measures will not have to be resorted to in order to make you appear again.

Those masculine prodigies we have been talking of, are generally recognized and "gobbled up" before they go far from their native haunts. But if you search diligently, perhaps you may find one indigenous to your part of the country. Never say fail, it is well worth the trying for.

A. Z. H. sends the following remedy for rheumatism: Did any of you ever try peppermint for rheumatism? Take five drops of oil of peppermint every three hours, rubbing the affected parts with 20 drops of the oil in 40 drops of alcohol. For joints stiffened with rheumatism this application is excellent.

Grate one ounce of castile soap, add a heaping teaspoonful of cayenne pepper and one-half pint boiling water. Stir until dissolved, then add one-half ounce of aqua ammonia, one ounce sweet oil, one-half pint of alcohol; keep bottled closely. This will relax the muscles and you can walk with ease.

THE BLADE COOK.

A Country Farmer asks The Blade readers for a recipe for the old-fashioned pumpkin-butter made by our grandmothers.

The Cook's Grandmother used to prepare it as for pies—cooking it very slowly all day long, and adding a very little sugar before packing it way in a big stone jar in the darkest corner of a very dark cellar.

A Kansas Farmer's Wife asks for a recipe for cornmeal dumplings to boil with meat or chicken.

She tells the Cook and her friends that mush, taken as soon as it is boiled, and dropped by the spoonful into hot drippings and fried brown is very nice.

Also that cold meat or chicken minced fine and put in a kettle with plenty of water, allowed to come to a boil and thickened with cornmeal and fried like mush is very palatable.

She says further that little pieces of bread dough allowed to become very light and boiled for from 15 to 20 minutes in a covered kettle of water, are nice eaten with sweetened and flavored milk.

Oyster Fritters.

The Cook's Grandmother never made these, but they are capital just the same.

For 25 oysters take 2 eggs, 1 cupful milk, 1 teaspoonful salt, a little pepper, 2 cupfuls flour, ½ teaspoonful of baking-powder.

Drain the oysters, strip them with your fingers to remove all pieces of shell and chop them fine. Beat the eggs until very light, add the milk, then the flour and salt, beat until perfectly smooth; add the dry oysters and the baking-powder; mix well and drop by the spoonful into boiling fat. When browned on one side, turn, and brown on the other, and take them out with a skimmer as to remove them with a fork would make them heavy.

THE BLADE FANCY WORK CLUB.

Mrs. D. L. Eaton came to the front today with a description of a handsome lamp-shade. The foundation was a piece of bobbinet, stretched smoothly over a wire frame.

To this was attached sections of rose-

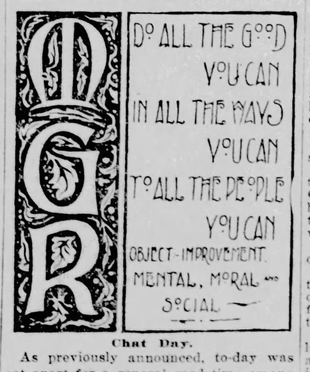
colored silk pointed toward the end and sufficiently long to reach the bowl of the lamp, each section being finished with a tiny silk ball.

Above this first row of tabs was fastened a second row a trifle shorter than the first, and so arranged that they hung alternately; these also were finished with the silken balls.

Above the second row, alternating again, was a third row similarly finished, and headed with an arrangement of silk cords ending in silver bells. Over this again was a full ruche of the silk.

The effect was very charming, and would have been equally so if any other delicate shade, or combination of harmonizing colors had been used.

Ribbon of suitable width could be utilized in place of the silk.



Chat Day.

As previously announced, to-day was set apart for a general good time among ourselves, and old members and new ones availed themselves of the opportunity.

One of the first to come in was Ex-Invalid, an old-time member from Iowa,

EX-INVALID.

and to show the M. G. R.'s just how she opened the door and gazed at them," and how well her badge appears, Miss Prudence herewith presents her photograph.

Other long absent but not forgotten M. G. R.'s were Ivan, the Tennessee President, whom Miss Prudence has not heard from since he entertained her on her tour of the United States in the fall of 1897.

Peggy Short, whose bright letters made her popular among us several years ago, and who has another claim upon us through her sister Lenore, who was, until her death, the president of Virginia, was another very welcome guest.

New members who took advantage of the informal reception were Blue-bell, Indiana., another little housekeeper who promised to live up to our motto, and then hurried away for fear of the waste-basket!

Yellow Pansy, W. Va., enrolled himself as one of us, and wrote for a badge, thinking "every fellow should show his colors."

Nebraska Maid, having "screwed up her courage" to ask for admittance, promised to be good and "real quiet" if we would let her in.

Black Pine, Oregon, had a word to say to W. Va. Girl, "My only resolution at the beginning of the year was to try and do better, but may I not take your motto for mine, it is such a good one."

Missouri Girl shook hands heartily with Miss Bettie as she came in this morning, saying: When I read your letter, I rubbed my eyes and wondered if I wrote it myself, it sounded so much like me, even to making old dresses as good as new. I may be on old maid myself some day, for I am no spring chicken now and may never find that model man Miss Bettie and I are both looking for (wonder which of us will be his second wife?) I have thought of this long ago and secured a good education and learned to cook, sew and keep house, so, if this terrible calamity does befall me, I can take care of myself.

John Jr., I enjoy reading your letters, I am your neighbor across the way.

Daliah, N. C., is a little inclined to view things more gloomily than most of the M. G. R.'s, and writes: "Why should we wish to be happy here, when it is not home for us?"

Fairy Flora, with characteristic brightness, has a word for her, and for several other M. G. R's.

Yes, G. M. Boy, a bachelor, always finds some one to share his joys and sorrows and other household furniture, when he can't sew nor darn, I venture to guess.

Why, Forest Neeley, I used to think if I was only a man, life would be one sweet summer day, but now I find the men are not much happier than the women. I fancy, however, that as children are better if slippered occasionally, so older children are the better for a little sorrow.

Kansas Beauty, you have my thanks for your words of appreciation. I will also say to you, that a merry laugh is worth c altivat ng.

Jack Frost, you have chosen a splendid profession; I wish you all success.

Daliah, so you find this a cold world of sin do you? I don't, I love the world, and I just wish I had space to talk to you.

Teddy, you should not hesitate for many years before joining our circle; there is no cure for such bashfulness, but goodness knows there ought to be!

Miss Dale, a woman is as old as she looks, a man as old as he feels, and as no woman is a correct judge of her own beauty, perhaps you are not an old maid after all.

Dear Elwina, why are you so careful to tell us that you are a church member? You don't have to tell people that you are a lady do you?

The Doctor paid the circle a brief call only stopping to say: As the weather has been so inclement and so many are suffering with colds, I thought it advisable to bring with me my medicine case. Now, if any one is at all indisposed, just let them make the fact known, and if I cannot relieve you at once there will be no-bill presented.

Epworthian, Minn., having seated himself between High School Girl and Elwina, addressed them as follows: You are right, High School Girl, about the old proverb that seeing is believing. An education gained in this way, is much better than the learning one gets at school, as in the first plan you have a chance to see the real things, just as nature has pictured them.

Well, Elwina, I think we can shake hands as I belong to the M. E. church and the Epworth league also, though I live too far out in the country to attend either very frequently.

N. E. Girl had a word to say for herself as usual.

Harold, I think if you would unmask, that we should see Make Haste, Lu-Clare, I dare not introduce Mr. N. E., for he declares he will tell the M. G. R.'s of the scrape I got into one day last fall, when he was away.

Fairy Flora, the sweater is a minus quantity in my bicycle attire.

Ye Florence, we get the full benefit of the northeasters. They sweep down upon us without warning, and I dread them, for they often cause shipwrecks along the coast.

Red Cloud, I wonder if you can join a letter circle. I shall be glad to enroll you, as the gentlemen are at present in minority.

Big I. T., had his little chat with Florence; I was much pleased with Florence's letter from Oklahoma; seems near home; I wonder how far she lives from here, and if she would object if I rode over on my bike next summer when melons are ripe, to see if they are better than the kind we raise here?

W. Va. Girl No. 2, says to Red Cloud: I believe it is perfectly right for women to preach. There is a minister and his wife holding meetings in our church now. He preaching alternately with her.

Yes, Harold, we are all aware that it is better to look on the right side of things, but it is not easy to do so, when the darker days come.

Topsy, Kan., has been retrospecting evidently, and comes in with her thoughts still in the past. I have been looking over the description of the Christmas tree we had several years ago, and found so many names we do not see among us now.

Where are Shamrock and Terence, Trew Blew and all the rest? Thistle, those two kittens you gave me, have grown to be the nicest cats you ever saw! I think Ben Davis chose that name, because he is fond of Ben Davis apples. Why has Harold (and others) changed his nom? I think it is nice to be recognized as old members. I don't know who Harold is, but he reminds me of one of the state presidents. I have forgotten his name.

Buckeye Lassie says: I unite with Jo March in her admiration of Thanatopsis, and think it one of the grandest poems ever written.

Fairy Flora, I agree with you in regard to dancing. There is no place in the Bible where it is forbidden, and while I do not approve of public balls, I have attended many neighborhood dances, where all were well acquainted, and have never felt that I was sinning.

Brunette, Tenn., writes: Egyptian Friend, what is wrong with the Sunny South teacher? Launcelot, where is your badge? Why not wear one, and perhaps I may know you. I should like to meet an M. G. R. personally.

Blossom Bell has a word for Zack Stubbs: Zack, I have two brothers who are telegraph operators, and I know something of the grave responsibility that rests on a person holding such a position.

Samaritan addressed the meeting after this fashion: The motto at the head of this column reminds me of the parable of the ten talents, and teaches me that with one talent I may possibly make some one happier by some kind deed. I have a friend in a distant state who is a "shut-in." I took some cards, three by seven inches in size, and clipping from the household and M. G. R. column of The Blade a few precious gems. I pasted them to both sides of the cards, fastened all together with baby ribbon and sent them to her for a Valentine message.

If she enjoys reading as I did preparing them, I shall feel well repaid for sacrificing my favorite papers.

Seeker writes: I once before raised my hand to knock for admittance, but heard such a shuffling of feet and turning of chairs and a chorus of "who's there?" that I ran away, and never stopped until I reached home. I live in what was once known as the Great American Desert and sometimes my friends call me schoolma'am, though I never was addressed as ma'am before I adopted that profession.

Although I have never been seen among you, I long ago adopted your motto, and can testify to the good done by the circle.

Mabel writes: I am a minister's daughter and farmer's wife, and taught school several years ago before my marriage, and am glad to see that so many teachers have adopted the M. G. R. motto. I wish I could help some of you as much as I have been helped by you.

OUR BADGE.

Everey member of the Merry-Go-Rounds should have a badge, and, when it can be had for 15 cents, there is no reason why any should go without it.

About Liquid Air.

Ray Stannard Baker tells in McClure's Magazine for March the wonderful story of Mr. Charles E. Tripler's operations with liquid air which gains in fascination at each telling. "I saw Mr. Tripler," he says, "admit a quart or more of the liquid air into a small engine. A few seconds later the piston began to pump vigorously, driving the fly-wheel as if under a heavy head of steam. The liquid air had not been forced into the engine under pressure, and there was no perceptible heat under the boiler; indeed, the tube which passed for a boiler was soon shaggy with white frost. Yet the little engine stood there in the middle of the room running apparently without motive

CHARLES E. TRIPLER.

power, making no noise and giving out no heat or smoke, and producing no ashes. And that is something that can be seen nowhere else in the world—it is a new and almost inconceivable marvel."

A marvel indeed! And when one reads further on that he proposes to make the liquid air to run this engine by the engine itself the wonder grows. Mr. Tripler believes that he has discovered in this a great principle in science, although he modestly says that he has not finished his experiments yet and does not want to claim too much.

Mr. Tripler freezes alcohol with liquid air; he boils liquid air upon a block of ice, and when a kettle of liquid air is placed upon a hot gas stove a thick coating of ice gathers on the bottom directly over the blaze, while frost coats the whole receptacle. These and other wonders that sound like Munchausen stories are described showing that liquid air is 344 degrees colder than ice; that it will freeze mercury so hard that the latter may be used as a hammer with which to drive nails; that it will burn steel, and do many other strange things.

The dangers that may be brought about by this discovery are some of them hinted at, but they can hardly as yet be comprehended. It will, however, take time and effort to make it the revolutionizing power which Mr. Tripler believes it is bound to be.

OUR WONDER COLUMN

1—WHO WAS HE?

He was born at Cornish, N. H., in 1808. His father died when he was quite young, and his uncle, who was an Episcopal Bishop of Ohio, undertook to educate him. He attended school at Cincinnati and Dartmouth, and studied law at Washington. While practising law in Cincinnati, he at leisure prepared the statutes of Ohio, which work won for him a reputation, and has since superceded all other editions. He was a warm advocate of anti-slavery principles, and may be fairly considered the originator and leader of what is now known as the Republican party. He died in New York in 1873.

Robt. S. Walker.

2—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

Mr. A has three times as many cows as horses and one more; five-sixteenths as many cows as hogs, and twice as many sheep as hogs and six more. How many has he of each, if he owns 115 head of stock?

N. J. P.

3—A FLOWER GARDEN.

It will be laid out in seven rectangular beds. The first will contain a numeral and a human feature. The second will contain a bird and a vulgar anathema. The third will contain a division of time and long drawn breaths. The fourth will contain an article of food and a hollow vessel. The fifth will contain a small animal and a musical instrument. The sixth will contain a very sly animal and an article of wearing apparel. The seventh will contain a winter product and spheres.

Babe McGinnis.

4—QUOTATION.

Who wrote:

"When two friends part they should lock up one another's secrets, and interchange the keys."

W. P. E.

5—QUERY.

What is St. Elmo's Fire?

Launcelot.

LEGEND OF THE BEAUTIFUL HAND.

Three maidens, young and fair, in the ages long ago,
Disputed as to which of them the loveliest hand could show.

One dipped her hand into a stream, and held it up as white
As any flake of snow that ever glistened in the light.

One plucked the strawberries that grew upon the streamlet's brink,
And ruthlessly crushed out the juice to stain her fingers pink.

Another to a mossy spot, where grew the violets, went,
And gathered flowers until her hands were fragrant with the scent.

There passed a crippled woman, who scarce her feet could lift:—
"Pity me, maidens, I am poor; who'll give to me a gift?"

The three fair ones dented her, but a fourth one, who sat near,
Gave alms unto the beggar, and spoke her words of cheer.

"What means," she asked, "this contest? You seem not to agree."
They told of their dispute, and held their hands for her to see.

"They're beautiful, indeed! but the loveliest one," she said,
"Is not the washed or fragrant one, nor the one that's tipped with red.

"It is the hand that was outstretched to give the poor a gift,
And, from a bowed and weary soul, a heavy load to lift."

As thus she spoke, her wrinkles fled, her staff was thrown away,
And she, a God-sent angel, before them stood, that day.

The angel's just decision the test of time has stood:
The loveliest hands to-day are those that do the greatest good.

—James L. Elderdice, in Success.

THE FIRST NEW YEAR'S CALL.

He was just a fat, chubby boy, holding in his hands a scroll of white paper and a pencil, but he was not writing. Tod and Tip, the twins, looked at him in wonder, but he apparently did not notice them; his eyes were bent over his scroll.

"I think he is a new baby," said Tod. Tip looked at him with scorn. "Babies can not sit up on the backs of chairs, and babies do not write."

"Well, what I want to know is how he got here," demanded Tod, who always expected Tip, his twin, to explain things which he did not understand.

Tip gazed wonderingly at the little figure on the back of grandma's chair in the nursery, and shook her curly head.

"I tell you it is a baby, and he has come to live with us," maintained Tod.

"It isn't," and Tip flushed, and her face looked as it always does when papa says, "Be careful! the danger signal is out."

The pencil in the fingers of the little figure dropped closer to the scroll, which was so clean and white. "Isn't a baby; I know a baby, this is a"—and Tip stopped; she was going to say a little old man, but that would be ridiculous. Tip looked again, and the little figure was gone.

Tip and Tod looked at each other, looked at the chair where the little figure had been, and then rubbed their eyes. No, the little figure was gone—gone; and then the children wondered why they had not been afraid. Both ran to the window, but no little child was in sight.

"Why," said Tip, "he would freeze to go out this cold day; he had 'most nothing on."

Tod looked toward the fire, but there was the big screen and the fire.

It was New Year's Day, and the streets were bright with happy-looking people going to give the New Year's greetings. Tip and Tod were alone, for grandma, papa, and mamma had gone to see Uncle John, Aunt Kate and the new baby, and everybody in the house seemed to be too busy to talk Tip and Tod had the whole house to themselves. Company was expected, and so much was to be done!

"Let's play house," said Tip, going toward the beautiful doll-house that she found at Christmas.

"No," answered Tod; "I want to play fireman," and he dragged out of the closet the beautiful hook and ladder machine that was his next to greatest treasure. He began running around the room with it, and struck the chair in which Charlotte Augusta, the lady hostess of the doll-house, was sitting. She fell on her face, and her little mother struck Tod on the back; a blow which Tod returned with all his might, and which Tip returned in full measure. She turned to pick up Charlotte Augusta—and there sat the little figure on the back of the chair writing on the scroll, but looking so sad. You may be sure that both children stopped in sheer amazement. They looked at each other and back at the little figure, who was still writing.

"How did he get in?" demanded Tod. Tip, remorseful Tip, just shook her head; she was too amazed to speak, and besides, Charlotte Augusta had been hurt. Tip sat down in her little rocker, holding Charlotte Augusta, whose nose was flattened on the Tip. The tears gathered and fell on her beautiful hair. Tod knew something dreadful must have happened, and hastened over to Tip's chair and saw why she was crying. He put his arm around his sister's neck, and his curly head down on hers. They both looked up, and the little figure was rubbing out what he had written on the scroll, and his face was not sad.

The two children looked at each other for an explanation, when they looked back, the little figure could not be seen.

Tod bravely walked over to the corner and looked behind the chair and the curtain, but it was not there.

Tip could not long be diverted from the serious accident which had befallen Charlotte Augusta, and was crying silently. Tod looked at her, and the tears came into his eyes as he said:

"Tip, mamma will have her fixed, and I'll—I'll give you my watch," and Tod took his treasure from his pocket.

Tip knew what that meant, and she bravely wiped her eyes and answered: "The doll man can make her well; I don't"—her voice sounded as though she would cry—"I don't believe it hurt her very much."

Charlotte Augusta was rocked and kissed on her poor nose in the way that Tip and Tod knew had such power to comfort and heal bruises. At last she was put to bed in her own room in her own house, until mamma could come.

"Let us play ninepins," said Tod, with a feeling of security, as he looked about and thought there was nothing else to be hurt or injured in the clear space he had selected.

They began, but presently a discussion arose as to whether Tod had knocked down three or four pins. They grew more and more angry and noisy. "I did!" "You didn't!" was fairly hurled through the air, and Tod raised his foot to kick Tip—when there sat the little figure on the back of the chair, writing and looking very sad. Tod's foot fell back on the floor, but Tip, expecting what Tod was going to do, threw a ninepin and struck Tod on the foot. There was a cry of pain, and in a minute both of Tip's arms were round Tod's neck, and she was sobbing, "I did not mean it, Tod dear. Does it hurt so much?" and she kissed Tod's face wherever she could find a place.

When they remembered, they looked at the little figure, and it was rubbing out what it had written, and the sweetest smile was on its lips.

The two children were quiet in a minute, and stood holding hands and looking up at the figure.

"Tod, it's the spirit of the year; don't you remember grandpa told us about it? It has a clean page, and begins to write on it the first day of the year.

Tod trundled forward to climb into the chair and catch the figure, but he stubbed his toe on a mat, and nearly fell. Tip sprang to help him, and when they looked up again the little figure was gone.

"Oh, Tip!" and Tod fairly trembled. "Grandpa said the good things we did stayed on the page, and also the bad things for which we were not sorry."

Tip was still and thoughtful. They climbed on the sofa and held each other's hands, looking at the big chair that had held this important visitor.

They looked about, but could see nothing to do. A bright look flashed over Tod's face, and, putting his arm around Tip, he whispered, "Let us be good," and Tip nodded.

"Well, my little team seems to have quieted down early," said their pretty mamma kissed and kissed them over and over again. They were so solemn that she got up and looked at them.

"Mamma, the spirit of the year has been here, and he wrote—"

"But he rubbed it out," interrupted Tip; and grandma came in with a knowing look, saying, "I guess it is time for a walk;" and in this delightful proposal, with papa as companion, even the spirit of the New Year was forgotten for a time. But they often remembered. When the danger signal was in Tip's face, Tod tried to drive it away. When Tod's fists doubled up, or his foot came quickly from the ground, somehow the memory of the little figure and the clean white page on which things might be written that they would not want to read or have any one else read, when the year was twelve months old, made them careful, and they tried to be good; and then there were written many things that they did not know, for they did not remember the doing.—The Outlook.

Answers to A. Paul's List of Puzzles, February 23.

1.—Gen. Horatio Gates.
2.—Life's Gateways.
3.—Words forming diamond: C, aha, abide, Chicago, Adair, E. G. R., O.
4.—Sixty-four.
5.—Query: Who was Coal Oil Johnny?

Coal Oil Johnny was the adopted son of a widow living in Venango county, Pa., on whose farm rich wells of petroleum were found. After her death Johnny rushed to New York city, where in eighteen months he squandered $2,000,000 in riotous living. It is said that he founded a minstrel troupe, giving each member a diamond ring. When his career came to an end he was glad to fill the position of doorkeeper to the very company he had founded.

Wm. Bryant wrote:

"Weep not that the world changes; did it keep
A stable, changeless state, 'twere cause indeed to weep."

Chat.

W. P. E. has the distinction of being the first to send in a correct solution to Badger's puzzle of February 16.

N. Holt sends solution and new problem.

Dixie Gum sends the names of 27 birds in answer to Agnes' puzzle.

The Schoolmistress wants some new puzzles—a set for April Fool's day and a set for Easter, and just as many odd sets as you can send her.

There seems to be a little lukewarmness in the Academy, except among the faithful old members, and it may be necessary to bring out the dust-covered "birch rod" in order to liven things up.

THE EXCELLENCE OF SYRUP OF FIGS is due not only to the originality and simplicity of the combination, but also to the care and skill with which it is manufactured by scientific processes known to the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. only, and we wish to impress upon all the importance of purchasing the true and original remedy. As the genuine Syrup of Figs is manufactured by the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. only, a knowledge of that fact will assist one in avoiding the worthless imitations manufactured by other parties. The high standing of the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. with the medical profession, and the satisfaction which the genuine Syrup of Figs has given to millions of families, makes the name of the Company a guaranty of the excellence of its remedy. It is far in advance of all other laxatives, as it acts on the kidneys, liver and bowels without irritating or weakening them, and it does not gripe nor nauseate. In order to get its beneficial effects, please remember the name of the Company—

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
SAN FRANCISCO, Cal.
LOUISVILLE, Ky. NEW YORK, N. Y.

WASHINGTON.

Concluded from Fifth Page.

TO REINFORCE OTIS.

Six Regiments of Regulars Ordered to Philippines.

Washington, March 3.—The secretary of war has just ordered the reinforcement of Gen. Otis by six regiments. These are the Sixth artillery, now at San Antonio, the Sixth infantry, scattered along the Atlantic coast stations, the Ninth infantry at Madison Barracks, Thirteenth infantry in New York state, Twenty-first infantry at Plattsburg, N. Y., and the Sixteenth infantry at Fork Cook and neighboring posts in the middle west.

These regiments have been ordered to make ready to proceed to San Francisco and thence to Manila.

In answer to the direct question as to whether or not these regular troops are intended to relieve a corresponding number of volunteer soldiers at Manila, it was said at the war department that while this probably would be the case, it was not possible yet to make a positive statement. This means that if when the reinforcements arrive at Manila the conditions are satisfactory the volunteers will be brought home; but if Otis shall have need for all the combined force then they must wait.

The reinforcements are made up of troops who are not only regulars in the full sense of the term, but who have been through the Cuban or Porto Rican campaigns.

Admiral Dewey is again pressing on the navy department the urgent need of vessels of light draft as a means of communication among the numerous small islands of the Philippine group. To this end the gunboat Vixen which acted so bravely, at outset of Cuban campaign has been ordered to be immediately fitted out at the Norfolk navy yard for sailing for Manila. It probably will be three or four months before she joins Dewey's fleet.

BAILEY OF TEXAS

Will Not Again Be Candidate for Democratic Leadership.

Washington, March 3.—Representative Bailey, of Texas, announced to-day that he would not be a candidate for Democratic leadership in the next congress. He stated to an Associated Press reporter that his decision was irrevocable, although his friends appealed to him not to make the statement.

The refusal of the Democrats yesterday to follow his lead in the demand for the consideration of the resolutions declaring General Wheeler and the members who had accepted army commissions had thereby vacated their seats induced him to make this announcement. Mr. Bailey will probably make a statement later in the day.

SENATOR GRAY

Is to Be Appointed to United States Circuit Bench.

Washington, March 2.—Senator George Gray, of Delaware, whose term expires March 4, has signified to the President that he would accept a tender of appointment as United States circuit judge for the Third judicial circuit, comprising the states of New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware, and his appointment has been definitely decided upon. The nomination, however, will not be made until after the adjournment of congress. A recent act gave an additional judge to this circuit because of the large amount of litigation therein. Senator Gray is a gold Democrat and was one of the American commissioners in the recent peace treaty negotiations.

HAWAIIAN INVENTORY.

Island Government Had Assets of More Than Ten Million.

Washington, March 1.—The President has sent to the Senate an inventory of the property of the Hawaiian government transferred to the United States under the act of annexation, according to a report made by Special Agent Sewall. The estimate places the total of valuation at $10,873,406.

The statement shows that of the public lands $4,147,700 worth of them are farming and grazing lands and $1,401,800 worth of them town lots.

HOBSON'S PROMOTION.

The Greatest Honor Conferred in History of American Navy.

Washington, March 3.—The President's promotion of Hobson is said by naval officers to constitute the greatest material promotion as a recognition of gallantry in the history of naval service. It will make Hobson a captain at the age of 30, and amounts to 250 numbers in the line of the navy. Hobson gains about 26 years in the ordinary course of promotion.

CANTEEN ABOLISHED.

Strict Provision in the New Army Reorganization Law.

Washington, March 3.—The amendment which Senator Hansbrough offered to the army reorganization bill and which became a part of that measure prohibiting officers or soldiers from selling intoxicating drinks, in any port or exchange was more far reaching than first appeared. It goes farther and prohibits any other person from selling such liquors in any encampment or any place used for military purposes. This will exclude liquors from all military reservations.

GEN. WHEELER

House Refused to Consider Resolutions to Vacate His Seat.

Washington, March 2.—The resolution to declare Gen. Wheeler and other representatives holding army commissions to have vacated their seats in the house was called up to-day by Mr. Henderson, of Iowa. The question of consideration was raised at once by Mr. Lacey, of Iowa, and by 43 to 87 the house refused to consider the matter. Ayes and noes were then called.

The yeas and nays resulted 77 to 164 against consideration of the Wheeler et. al., resolution.

CIVIL SERVICE REPORT.

The Commission Will Review History of the Government.

Washington, March 3.—There will be two unique departures in the forthcoming annual report of the civil service commission, which will be presented to the President shortly after the adjournment of congress. These will be a complete history of civil service from the beginning of this government and a full discussion of the methods of governing all the colonies of the world.

Summing up the civil service history, the commission makes the deduction that the civil service law was enacted for the purpose of carrying the government back to what is termed the wise methods of the founders of the republic, when merit and not political partisan service was the basis of consideration in the matter of appointments and retention in office in the government service. Reviewing the administration of colonial affairs in the world, the commission, in its report, will state that the universal experience shows that where the colonial government is not affected by political changes at home, the colonial government is stable, economical, wise and successful generally, but that the colonies are affected by the political changes at home, their governments are unstable and extravagant, and that in such colonies occur most of the revolts that figure in history, producing the high costs of military rule.

The commission's report does not specifically recommend an extension of civil service over our recent acquisitions, but the applications of these conclusions in the consideration of our insular affairs is left for deduction therefrom. The report reviews the application of the civil service laws since the last report, and cites all the cases of violations with pointed, vigorous conclusion, based on these, and there are a number of recommendations made in the remainder of the report, including several renewed from last year.

TOLEDO IS LUCKY.

The City Receives Goodly Recognition From Congress.

Washington, D. C., March 4.—Toledo is strictly in it this year. That city receives at the hands of Congress legislation that carries $1,450,000. This sum includes $500,000 for the Centennial exposition, $150,000 for harbor improvements to become available during the current year, and $800,000 in continuing contracts for harbor work. Toledo has no reason to complain.

The city has fared remarkably well. There were no dramatic incidents connected with the passage through the Senate of the Centennial bill and its signing by the President. There was no time for the burning of red fire or the introduction of stage effects. Everything went through with a whirl.

A time and place was found last night for taking the exposition bill from the Vice President's table, and it received the indorsement of the Senate without a word of discussion, and with hardly a word of explanation by Senator Foraker. The machinery was greased and the bill slipped through without the slightest friction. As soon as it could be engrossed it went to the President and received his approval. Representative Southard is receiving and sending congratulations to-day over the happy outcome of the fight for congressional recognition for the Centennial exposition.

For a long time the struggle looked almost hopeless, but during the last few days of the session the bill got in the push and was carried along with other measures which had received the favor of the leaders in both Senate and House.

FOR THE REGULARS.

Sixty Thousand Able Bodied Men Are Wanted for the Army.

Washington, March 4.—Uncle Sam is in need to-day of 60,000 able bodied men. That they may be obtained as rapidly as possible, instructions have been sent by Secretary Alger to all recruiting officers directing them to make as many enlistments as possible. To aid them in their work, the secretary has authorized them to freely advertise, and to employ enlistmen. It has been determined to assign 25 additional officers to recruiting duty, making a total of 95 officers engaged in the work.

Returns received by Adjutant General Corbin show that there are to-day 40,000 men who have enlisted in the United States service for three years, and this number may be largely increased by the re-enlistment of many of the volunteers, who have announced their intention of remaining in the service.

In addition to Americans it is proposed by the department to take advantage of that provision of the new army law which permits the employment of natives of Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. It is not intended, however, to form regiments composed solely of natives. The program so far decided upon contemplates the formation of mixed regiments—that is, Americans and natives, with American officers. Just how many of these regiments will be authorized is a question to be settled within the next week. It desired the department could organize thirty of these regiments, that many being authorized. In mixing the men the authorities believe they will be able to prevent mutiny, or any other military crimes in which the natives might attempt to engage.

PRIZE CASES.

Work of Adjusting the Claims of the Navy for Captures.

Washington, March 2.—The navy department is pushing the settlement of the prize cases growing out of the late war as rapidly as possible and the judge advocate general has sent to the auditor of the treasury for the navy the claims of the Nashville and Marblehead for the seizure of the Argonauta and the Marblehead, Resolute and Annapolis for the seizure of the Adula.

These are sent forward for preliminary adjustment only as the final judgment of the prize courts in the cases have not yet been certified to navy department. The department has adopted this practice in order to facilitate the final settlement of the cases, for it permits the auditor to examine them and will have everything in order for speedy decision as soon as the final judgments are sent to him.

HERBERT PUTNAM.

Of Boston, May Be Appointed Librarian of Congress.

Washington, March 6.—It is stated upon good authority that the new Congressional librarian will be Herbert Putnam, of Boston. The President will not reappoint Mr. Barrows, it is said, for the sentiment shown by the Senate's action to be overwhelmingly against his confirmation. Mr. Putnam is the librarian of the Boston public library, and is one of the leading experts in that line of work in this country. His appointment will be distinctly one of merit. He was the President's original preference, it is said, but Mr. Putnam did not wish to stand in the way of Representative Barrows, and this disinclination led to the appointment of the latter.

POSSIBLE REVOLUTION

New Spanish Cabinet is Built On Sand.

Washington, March 6.—Diplomats here, after looking over the new Spanish cabinet, assert that the kingdom is on the verge of a revolution which can hardly be averted. The new cabinet is understood to be built on sand, and shifting sand at that.

The members are good men in their departments, with fine political training, but they are not popular with the people themselves. Many of the leading generals in Spain are enemies of Gen. Polavieja, the new minister of war. Part of the antagonism to Polavieja is doubtless due to the fact that he has been advanced far beyond his seniors in the service.

This advancement has been brought about not by reason of any meritorious services that he has rendered, because his career, from a military point of view, has neither been brilliant nor successful. He has succeeded simply because he has made himself personally attractive to the queen regent. It is she who has promoted him, and the last move is to make him minister of war, to the exclusion of those who have given the best years of their life fighting for the Spanish monarchy.

The opinion of the older generals in the army influences the opinion of the subordinate officers to a greater or less degree, and of the rank and file of the army in particular. It may be said that the entire Spanish army is against the present ministry, and with a single word from the generals would snuff out the monarchy in the twinkling of an eye.

Meanwhile the Carlists, who are always ready to take advantage of any new phase of popular discontent, will take advantage of this sign of weakness, this evidence of lack of discretion on the part of the government. The Spanish monarchy is not long for this world, or any other. It is making its last gasp.

MAJOR GENERAL OF VOLUNTEERS.

Five Officers Who Are Likely to Retain the Grade.

Washington, March 4.—Though not fixed beyond amendment at this moment, the list of five officers who are likely to be retained in the grade of major general of volunteers is: Gen. Otis, in command at Manila; Gen. Lawton, about to arrive at that place and take charge of the active military operations; Gen. Shafter, in command of the department of California; Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, and probably Gen. Wilson, in Cuba.

Owing to the severe limitations imposed by the army reorganization bill the war department will find itself unable to bestow a major general's commission on such a man as Gen. Henry, now in command of the entire island of Porto Rico.

IN CONGRESS.

Washington, Feb. 28.—A frenzy of bill-passing was on the Senate to-day. Bills carrying an aggregate of eight or ten millions of dollars were passed, and many more that had not been passed by both houses of Congress were placed as amendments on the Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill. That measure was passed at 11:15 to-night, having been technically under consideration throughout the day and evening.

The House spent practically the entire time of the seven-hour session to-day passing the public building bills favorably acted upon by the Committee of the Whole ten days ago. Sixty-one bills in all were passed, carrying $9,352,000.

Washington, March 1—The last lingering possibility of an extra session of congress disappeared to-day when the House passed the senate army reorganization bill. An element in the vote was Mr. Hull's recital of a statement made by the President to him that he would not construe section 2 as authority to conscript the militia in volunteer organizations which should elect to remain in the service. The bill passed—203 to 32. It now goes to the President. The general deficiency appropriation bill, carrying $2,089,000, was passed under suspension of the rules without a word of criticism. This is the last of the appropriation bills. The senate amendment to the river and harbor bill were not concurred in, and it was sent to the conference, the friends of the Nicaraguan canal amendment having decided to postpone their fight until the conference report. The conference reports on the omnibus claims bill, the naval personnel and many other less important measures were agreed to. The senate bill making Dewey a full admiral was passed. The bill now goes to the President for his signature. The sundry civil bill was sent to conference, Messrs. Cannon (Ill.), Moody (Rep., Mass.) and Dockery (Dem., Mo.), being appointed conferees. The conference report upon the census bill was called up by Mr. Hopkins, who explained the changes made by the conferees. The report was adopted. A senate bill was passed to set aside certain lands in the Pacific forest reserves in the state of Washington for the Washington National Park.

In the Senate, the naval appropriation bill, which ordinarily consumes the time of the Senate for several days, was passed this afternoon after less than five hours' debate. In that time, however, it was amended radically in one respect. The price to be paid by the government for armor plate was fixed in the bill at $300 a ton, a reduction of the amount fixed by the House of $345 a ton. In addition the secretary of the Navy was authorized in the event of the refusal of the armor plate companies to supply armor at $300 a ton, to proceed to the construction of an armor factory to cost $2,000,000 with which to operate the government plant.

Washington, March 2.—The passage of the fortifications bill and the Alaska criminal code bill was the principal business of the Senate to-day. The conference report on the bill authorizing governors of states to be reimbursed for expenses incurred in raising and equipping the volunteer army was agreed to. The conference reports on the criminal and naval personnel bills were agreed to. The bill providing a code of criminal laws for Alaska was passed. The Senate committee amendments were adopted by unanimous consent, with the understanding that the entire text should be subject to amendment. A conference was agreed to on the naval appropriation bill, and Senators Hale, Perkins and Gorman were named as conferees. Mr. Quay moved that the Senate concur in the amendment of the House to the measure providing for the erection of a building for the Department of Justice, the amendment limiting the cost to $1,000,000. The motion was agreed to, which passes the bill.

An attempt was made in the House to consider the resolutions reported by the judiciary committee declaring that Gen. Wheeler and the three other members who accepted commissions in the army had thereby vacated their seats, but the House, by an overwhelming vote, refused to consider them. The political division on this vote was significant. The vote stood: Yeas cast by 21 Republicans, 43 Democrats and 13 Populists, and 146 nays, cast by 101 Republicans, 44 Democrats and 1 Populist. A half million dollars each was appropriated under suspension of the rules for the pan-American exposition at Buffalo, and the Ohio Centennial at Toledo.

Washington, March 3.—The Senate passed bills to incorporate the National White Cross of America, amending the internal laws relating to distilled spirits, and providing a site for the Washington public library building. Considerable of the general deficiency bill was then proceeded with. Mr. Hale offered an amendment appropriating $3,000,000 as an emergency fund, to be expended by the President at his discretion. It was accepted without debate or explanation. The sundry civil bill was passed with amendments. A bill providing for a government exhibit at and to encourage the Ohio Centennial and Northwestern Territory Exposition to be held at Toledo and appropriating $500,000 was passed. The army appropriation bill was amended by the adoption of this clause, offered by Senator Foraker:

"That no property, franchise or concessions of any kind whatever shall be granted by the United States or by any military or other authority whatever in the island of Cuba during the occupation thereof by the United States."

The conference report on the Alaska criminal code was adopted, and the bill went to the President. The river and harbor bill precipitated a struggle to incorporate a provision to construct reservoirs for irrigation in Wyoming. The battle was prolonged between the two houses, the House insisting and the Senate resisting, until at 3:30 o'clock in the morning the Senate yielded, and the bill passed without the reservoir provision. The Senate also passed the sundry civil bill after striking out the clause for a Pacific cable, and that bill went to the President. The Senate, at 7 a. m., then went into executive session. The remainder of the proceedings are given below, under the heading, "The Last Day."

In the House, the conference report on the sundry civil bill was introduced. A motion to concur in the Pacific cable amendment modified so as to include the other amendment appropriating $350,000 for a cable steamer was defeated, 77 to 102. The House then insisted upon its disagreement to the items of the sundry civil bill still in dispute and agreed to a further conference. The army appropriation bill was passed, and went to the President. The House remained in session all night, and the remaining proceedings are given below, under the heading, "The Last Day."

THE LAST DAY.

Proceedings of the Fifty-Fifth Congress In Its Closing Hours.

Washington, March 4.—The house proceedings dragged slowly after midnight, as the conferences on various appropriation bills were not ready to report. Time was killed by frequent recesses, and the members were kept in good nature by soup and stories. At 4:30 a. m. the river and harbor conference agreement was reported by Chairman Burton, who moved its adoption. This led to considerable discussion. The conference report was agreed to without division. This was the last legislative stage of the bill, and it was ready for the President.

At 5 a. m. Mr. Boutelle presented a partial conference report on the naval bill. It covered everything save the three items—new ships, price of armor and a government armor factory.

Mr. Handy, of Delaware, moved to recede and concur in the senate amendment for a government armor factory; lost, 34 to 77. The three main items then were sent back to conference.

The speaker announced as visitors to the United States military academy Representatives Marsh, Bromwell and Jett; to the naval academy, Representatives Dalzell, Steele and Settle.

At this time four appropriation bills were still in conference—naval, sundry civil civil, deficiency and District of Columbia—but they were reported to be progressing at a satisfactory rate.

At 7:45 the District of Columbia conference report was presented, and an extended debate occurred on sectarian charitable institutions. The report was adopted.

The conference report upon the deficiency appropriation bill containing a full agreement upon all disputed points was presented at 8:30 and agreed to without a word of debate.

At 9:30 a. m. the final conference report upon the naval bill was presented by Mr. Boutelle. He explained that the senate had yielded to the house as to the number of ships to be authorized (12), and the house had confirmed the armor plate provisions as to limit the cost to $300, but had secured the elimination of the provision for an armor plate factory. The house had reluctantly yielded to this item as to price of armor, said Mr. Boutelle, and only in the hope that a future congress would remedy the situation regarding armor. The report was adopted, and the caucus recessed until 10:30.

At 8 o'clock the senate resumed business in legislative session. Soon afterwards Mr. Hale (Me.) presented the conference report on the general deficiency bill, and it was agreed to without debate.

At 8:35 a. m. Mr. Hale presented the final conference report of the naval appropriation bill, and it was submitted to the senate.

The conference report finally was agreed to without division.

This was the last of the conference agreements on the appropriation bills to be acted upon by the senate, and its acceptance caused a general sigh of relief.

Routine business of the session was rapidly closed up.

Washington, March 4.—The President has signed all the appropriation bills, with the exception of the District of Columbia.

The Vice President declared the senate adjourned without day, at 12:08 p.m.

The house adjourned at 12:10 o'clock.

GUAM IN POSSESSION.

Possession Taken February 1 by Commander of the Bennington.

Honolulu, via San Francisco, March 1.—Commander Taussig of the Bennington is the first American governor of Guam. The American flag went up over the new possession at 10:30 a. m., February 1. It was raised over Fort Santa Cruz in the harbor of San Luis d'Apra, the main harbor of Guam, and saluted by the guns of the Bennington. Simultaneously it was raised over the government buildings at Agana, five miles distant, and was saluted by a battalion from the Bennington and a company of native militia with a field battery.

The paymaster of the Bennington is the collector of revenues for Guam. Everything is quiet and orderly.

The American flag was also raised over Wake Island by Commander Taussig.

A GOOD COMPLEXION

Depends On Good Digestion.

This is almost an axiom, although usually we are apt to think that cosmetics face powders, lotions, fancy soaps, etc., are the secret for securing a clear complexion.

But all these are simply superficial assistants. It is impossible to have a good complexion unless the digestive organs perform their work properly; unless the stomach by properly digesting the food taken into it furnishes an abundance of pure blood a good complexion is impossible.

This is the season so many ladies are using Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, because they promptly cure any stomach trouble, and they have found out that perfect digestion means a perfect complexion and one that does not require cosmetics and powders to enhance its beauty.

Many ladies diet themselves or deny themselves many articles of food solely in order to keep their complexion clear.

When Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are used no such dieting is necessary. Take these tablets and eat all the good, wholesome food you want and you need have no fear of indigestion nor the sallow, dull complexion which nine women out of ten have, solely because they are suffering from some form of indigestion.

Bear in mind that beauty proceeds from good health, good health results from perfect digestion and we have advanced the best argument to induce every man or woman to give this splendid remedy a trial.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets can be found in drug stores and cost but 50 cents per package. They are prepared by the F. A. Stuart Co., Marshall, Mich.

If there is any derangement of the stomach or bowels they will remove it, and the resultant effects are good digestion, good health, and a clear, bright complexion. Ask your druggist for the tablets and a free book on stomach diseases.

IN THE PHILIPPINES.

FORCE IN THE PHILIPPINES

Numbers Forty-One Thousand Men and Officers.

Washington, March 6.—Forty-one thousand officers and men of the combined army and navy forces comprise the approximate total American strength now at, en route and under orders for service at the Philippine islands. No further reinforcements are now in contemplation. The forces of the two services already stationed in and about the archipelago consist of 20 regiments of infantry, one engineer battalion; seven troops of cavalry and 11 batteries of artillery an aggregate of about 24,500 men. Nineteen vessels, with an aggregate of 297 officers, 2,990 men and 253 marines make up the naval contingent. This is exclusive of the transport Solace, with 162 officers and men all told, which is constantly passing back and forth from Manila. There are about 4,800 army reinforcements on the way to Manila, making as rapid progress as possible, and there are, roughly, 7,500 men in the force under orders to proceed to the Philippines.

Most of the volunteer forces already in the field, and most of whom have borne the brunt of the engagements with both the Spanish army on the islands, and more recently the Filipinos, have been there since the beginning of the American occupancy of the islands. They comprise 15 regiments of infantry, one troop of cavalry and five batteries of artillery.

Reinforcements for the Philippines now on the way aggregate in the neighborhood of 4,800 men all told. These are made up of three general expeditions as follows: The transport Grant, with General Lawton and staff, with a total of 42 officers and 716 men, including one battalion of the Seventeenth Infantry Regiment and four companies of the Fourth Infantry.

This expedition sailed from New York, January 19, was reported at Singapore on Saturday, and General Lawton cabled General Otis that his expedition will reach Manila in the early morning of the 10th inst.

The transport Sherman, Col. J. H. Page commanding, carrying a total of 34 officers and 1,702 men, including the entire Third Infantry Regiment and a battalion of the Seventeenth Infantry. The Sherman sailed from New York, February 3. The transport Sheridan, under command of Lieutenant Colonel J. H. Smith, of the Twelfth Infantry, carries all of the Twelfth and a battalion of the Seventeenth Infantry, making a total of 57 officers and 1,796 men. Besides these the Roanoke, with a fair sized detach ment of recruits for the various regiments already in the archipelago, has gotten a good start on the way to Manila, and the transport Valencia sailed from San Francisco yesterday for Manila, via Honolulu, with 190 recruits for the infantry, artillery and hospital corps, and a number of West Point graduates assigned to duty with various companies in the Philippines.

To swell this formidable list of men already on the field and en route, five regiments of infantry and the crack Sixth Artillery, with an approximate strength, additional, of 7,000 men in all are under orders to proceed to Manila at the earliest opportunity. These reinforcements which go to the archipelago under an order issued by the War department last week complete the roll of troops so far as now contemplated for service in the islands.

—Spring tiredness is due to an impoverished condition of the blood and is cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla, which enriches the blood.

NO AMERICAN PRISONERS

Are in the Hands of the Philippine Natives.

Washington, March 3.—The following dispatch has been received by Secretary Alger from General Otis in answer to Secretary Alger's inquiry of yesterday respecting the number of American prisoners held by the insurgents:

"Manila, March 3.—Secretary of War, Washington. Insurgents have not taken nor do they hold a single prisoner of war. They have three soldiers in Malolos picked up in January, who, without permission, went among them near Cavite and Caloocan. I am looking after them and providing money. They have captured over 1,500 insurgent soldiers since February 4, and hold the majority as prisoners of war. Detrimental reports which reach the United States manufactured mostly in Hong Kong. Troops here in splendid condition, (Signed.) OTIS."

Filibusters Stopped.

New York, March 3.—A dispatch from Manila says:

"It is rumored that a steamer with 20,000 stands of arms and ammunition, which were bound for the Philippines, has been seized in Japanese waters by the Japanese authorities."

Cruise of the Concord.

Manila, March 3.—The United States gunboat Concord has arrived here after a week's cruise along the west coast of the island of Luzon. The only incident of her trip was the burning of a schooner loaded with supplies for the rebels at Dagupan, the terminus of the railroad. The natives fled and abandoned the town when the gunboat anchored in the bay.

The outposts beyond San Pedro Macati were fired upon by the rebels from the walls of the Guadalupe church. A gunboat advanced 300 yards beyond the lines and cleared away the enemy with Gatlings. No casualties are reported.

General Miller has been ordered to quarter his troops in Iloilo in the custom house or other public buillings and authorized to make the necessary changes at a cost not to exceed $40,000, the same to be met from the public revenues collected in Iloilo.

MANLA ALL RIGHT.

American Reinforcements Give an Air of Safety.

Manila, March 6.—The United States transport Ohio arrived yesterday. In the last two days there has been a very noticeable change in Manila for the better, probably due to the arrival of reinforcements for the American troops. Numbers of people are seen upon the streets and the amount of business transacted in the stores has marvelously increased. Yesterday the Luneta was blocked with carriages for the first time since the outbreak and the band of the Twentieth regulars played a number of airs, and it was hard to believe that a state of war existed.

Outside the city there was desultory firing throughout the day, and at various points the sharpshooters were most annoying. At San Pedro Macati, the rebels are very active, erecting entrenchments in front of the position occupied by the Washington troops, although a two-gun battery of the Sixth artillery repeatedly shelled them.

The enemy are fully alive to the fact that the Mausers have a much longer range than the Springfields and are continually taking "shots" in comparative safety. The American soldiers dislike this passive resistence and are eager for the excitement of an active campaign.

Despite the heat, the health of the men in the trenches has improved remarkably.

HOT WEATHER

Causes Some Suffering Among Troops at Manila.

Manila, March 2.—This is the hottest day of the season; but fortunately, all is quiet inside and outside our lines, and the majority of the men were kept in the shade.

The United States transport Morgan City has arrived here. The wives of the officers and other women passengers were not allowed to land, the authorities considering the condition ashore to be too unsettled.

Big Baby Carriage Sale.

If any of our readers will cut this notice out and send to Sears, Roebuck & Co., Chicago, Ill., they will send you, free, by mail, postpaid, a handsome catalogue of baby carriages in colors, with lowest Chicago wholesale prices, free examination offer, tell you how to order, etc.—Editor.

MANLY VIGOR RESTORED

WITHOUT THE USE OF DRUGS,

Our ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE and BOOK FOR WEAK MEN, which explains all about the terrible effects of youthful Errors, Excesses, Drains, etc., and how they can be cured at home without detention from business, mailed FREE TO ANY ADDRESS. Stop using poisonous drugs, which only aggravate your ailments. Try our Electric Belt. It will cure you while you sleep. You put it on when you go to bed and your sleep will be sound and refreshing and you you will wake up with new life and vigor in the weakened organs. Continue this a few weeks and you will be sound and well.

ELECTRICITY IS NATURE'S OWN REMEDY AND IS LIFE ITSELF.
AND WILL THEREFORE GIVE LIFE AND VIGOR TO ALL PARTS TO WHICH IT IS APPLIED.

If you are suffering from the effects of Lost Manhood, Varicocele, Errors of Youth, Seminal Weakness or any private trouble, don't delay, but write to us at once. We can cure you, and guarantee to do so. We are especially anxious to treat men who have tried all kinds of quack medicine and who feel convinced there is no cure. To those we can only say: Try us after you are through being robbed by "fake" doctors and patent medicine men, and WE WILL CURE YOU. Remember, we positively guarantee to cure the most obstinate case of Lost Manhood, Errors of Youth, Seminal Weakness, or Varicocele; also Rheumatism, Kidney Trouble, Constipation, Lame Back, Heart Disease, Stomach Trouble and Catarrh in a reasonably short time. Write or call on us. Consultation free. Read the testimonials given below.

VARICOCELE.

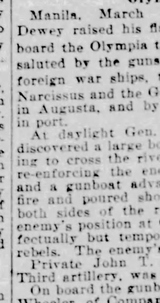
Read the Statement of Mr. E. L. Brewer, Whom We Cured of the Above Ailment in a Very Short Time.

TOPEKA, KAS., April 15, 1898.

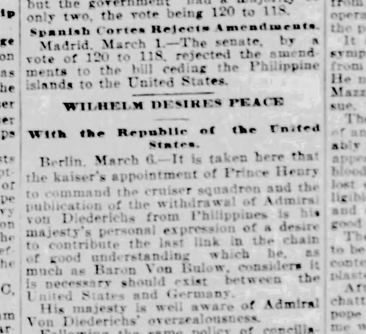
The Owen Electric Belt Company, St. Louis, Mo.:

Dear Sirs—About two months ago I purchased one of your No. 4 Belts for Varicocele, and it cured me sound and well in every respect. I had been afflicted with this ailment for about three years, and the pains I endured, and the misery I was in cannot be described. I tried nearly all the remedies and so-called "cure-alls" I heard of, but all to no avail. Finally, as a last resort, I concluded to try one of your Belts, as the testimonials you published of persons whom you have cured gave me new hope. It surely performed a miracle in my case, and I shall always recommend you to all who are afflicted as was for I know what your Belt did for me it will also do for others. Wishing you success in your good work, I remain,

Respectfully yours, E. L. BREWER.



Below is an exact representation of our wonderful No. 4 Gents' Belt, which has cured more ailments than all the medicines on earth combined.



Persons making the writers of requested to in dressed stamped have prompt inquiries from testimonials are close a self-addressed envelope to reply.

When writing for catalogue give full and complete description of your ailment.

LOST MANHOOD.

Words of Praise of Mr. O. A. Ishmael, of Windsor, Mo., Whom Our Belt Cured of the Above Ailments.

Windsor, Mo., April 5, 1898.—The Owen Electric Belt Co., St. Louis, Mo.: Gentlemen—I used one of your No. 4 Belts for myself, and sexual weakness, and can truthfully testify that it cured me. I was also troubled with kidney and bladder affections and they likewise have been cured. I had worn the belt but a short time when I felt improvement and soon after the above results followed. I can not say too much in commendation of the belt, and do heartily recommend every sufferer to give it a trial and be blessed in the test. It certainly is the greatest invention of this century. I am most gratefully yours, O. A. ISHMAEL.

MENTION THIS PAPER. Address THE OWEN ELECTRIC BELT AND APPLIANCE CO., 524 PINE ST., LOUIS, MO.

RAPID FIRE GUNS

Caused Filippinos to Abandon the Position They Assumed.

Manila, March 7, 11:25 a. m.—At daylight this morning the enemy were discovered trying to mount a gun across the river from San Pedro and the Sixth artillery promptly shelled the rebel battery. Temporarily stopping work, the enemy poured a fusillade of musketry across the river but a gunboat moved up and cleared the banks of the stream with rapid fire guns.

All was quiet during the night.

Postoffices have been established at Negros, Cebu and Iloilo, and the clerks left yesterday for their respective posts by the steamer Espana.

Manila, March 7, 2:50 p. m.—While the rebels had concentrated their forces with the evident purpose of attacking the water works, no direct attempt was made to capture the American position there.

Detachments from Gen. Hales and Gen. Wheaton's brigade cleared the country today.

THE FILIPINOS

Endeavor to Retake Water Works From Americans.

New York, March 6.—A despatch from Manila, dated at 10 a. m. to-day and printed in the Journal, reports that the Filipinos made an attempt to-day to capture the water works six miles from Manila. The attack was repulsed with a loss to the rebels of 17 killed and many wounded. The Second Oregon and the First Nebraska regiments were engaged. Two Americans were wounded.

DEWEY'S FLAG

Is Now Flying From the Warship Olympia.

Manila, March 4.—Admiral George Dewey raised his flag as an admiral on board the Olympia this morning and was saluted by the guns of the forts, of the foreign war ships, the British cruiser Narcissus and the German cruiser Kaiser in Augusta, and by the American ships in port.

At daylight Gen. Wheaton's outposts discovered a large body of rebels attempting to cross the river for the purpose of re-enforcing the enemy at Guadaloupe and a gunboat advanced under a heavy fire and poured shot into the jungle on both sides of the river and shelled the enemy's position at Guadalupe and ineffectually but temporarily scattering the rebels. The enemy's loss was heavy.

Private John T. Olz, of Battery C, Third artillery, was killed.

On board the gunboat Privates William Wheeler, of Company L, and Louis Barrien, of Company C, California regiment were wounded.

The rebels in the village of San Jose fired on the United States gunboat Benningston to-day and the war ship shelled that place and other suburbs of Malabon this afternoon.

The United States transports Senator and Ohio have arrived here with reinforcements of troops.

The United States Philippine commissioners who arrived here to-day on board the United States cruiser Baltimore have not yet landed.

FOREIGN NEWS.

PREMIER SAGASTA

Has Formally Handed in His Resignation—Ministry Could Not Stand.

Madrid, March 1.—Senor Sagasta has handed the resignation of the ministry to the queen regent.

The cabinet crisis is expected to last for several days, as it will be necessary for the queen regent to consult with the presidents of the chambers and other political leaders.

In the meanwhile the chambers will adjourn until a new ministry is formed.

Ministerialists hope the queen regent will support Senor Sagasta and dissolve the chambers.

SPANISH CABINET.

Senor Silvela Has Formed a New Ministry.

Madrid, March 4.—The queen regent, as the result of her consultations with her statesmen, generals and political leaders, yesterday informed Senor Sagasta that she desired to recain the present chamber and then she invited him to re-construct the cabinet.

Senor Sagasta replied that it would be impossible for him to remain premier without a dissolution. Thereupon the queen regent referred the same request to Gen. Montero Rios, president of the senate, who declined for the same reason. Finally Senor Silvela, the conservative leader accepted the task and it is expected that he will submit a conservative ministry to her majesty for her approval.

Newspapers predict that popular demonstrations will greet a conservative ministry.

The new cabinet took the oath of office to-day. The ministry is composed as follows: Senor Silvela, premier and minister of foreign affairs.

Senor Dato, minister of the interior.

Marquis Villala Vuerde, minister of finance.

Senor Duran, minister of justice.

General Polavieja, minister of war.

Marquis Pidal, minister of public affairs and of the colonies.

Admiral Camara, minister of marine.

It is expected that Gen. Martinez De Campos will become president of the senate. The brother of Marquis Pidal, it is thought, will be chosen as president of the chamber of deputies.

ITALY WON'T GET IT.

China Refuses to Grant Lease of San Mun Bay.

Pekin, March 6.—The Tsung Li Yamen (Chinese foreign office) has returned to the Italian charge d'affaires, Marquis Salvago Raggi, his dispatch containing the demand of the Italian government for a lease of San Mun Bay, on the same conditions as those under which Germany holds Kiao-Chou Bay, accompanying it with a letter declaring that the Chinese government is unable to grant the request.

The demand of the Italian government for a 99-year lease of San Mun Bay, province of Che Kiang, as a coaling station and naval base, included also a demand for the concession of three islands off the coast of Che Kiang, with the right to construct a railroad from San Mun Bay to Po-Yang Lake and to preferential railroad and mining provisions within a sphere covering the southern two-thirds of Che-Kiang province.

Rome, March 6.—Little attention is paid here to the refusal of the Chinese government to grant the requested lease of San Mun Bay, to be used as a naval base and coaling station. No doubt is entertained that the concession will be made after further negotiations.

Rear Admiral Grenet embarked yesterday on the Italian cruiser Stromboli at Naples, to take command of the Italian squadron in Chinese waters.

May Have Taken Possession.

London, March 6.—The Rome correspondent of the Daily Mail says:

"The Italian warships have landed marines at San Mun Bay, thus virtually taking possession.

"Italy will pay nearly £80,000 for the concession. The Tsung Li Yamen wishes to reduce the lease to 50 years."

SPANISH SENATE.

Bill Authorizing Transfer to America Passes by Majority of Two.

Madrid, March 1.—The government had a narrow escape from defeat in the senate yesterday on the bill authorizing the cession of the Philippines to the United States. The measure was passed, but the government had a majority of only two, the vote being 120 to 118.

Spanish Cortes Rejects Amendments.

Madrid, March 1.—The senate, by a vote of 120 to 118, rejected the amendments to the bill ceding the Philippine islands to the United States.

WILHELM DESIRES PEACE

With the Republic of the United States.

Berlin, March 6.—It is taken here that the kaiser's appointment of Prince Henry to command the cruiser squadron and the publication of the withdrawal of Admiral von Diederichs from Philippines is his majesty's personal expression of a desire to contribute the last link in the chain of good understanding which, he, as much as Baron Von Bulow, considers it is necessary should exist between the United States and Germany.

His majesty is well aware of Admiral Von Diederichs' over

ROYAL BAKING POWDER
ABSOLUTELY PURE
Makes the food more delicious and wholesome
ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

EXTRA SESSION TALK.

Defective Acts May Compel the President to Call It.

Washington, March 7.—A member of congress, who had a long interview with the President, made a prediction after he came away from the White House that congress will certainly be in session again soon. Some party leaders who have been examining the laws which were rushed through during the last days of the session have urged the President to convene the next congress immediately.

In the first place, it is pointed out that the army reorganization bill is so crude that serious embarrassments are certain to follow the formal declaration of peace. In addition to this, measures of absolute international importance were neglected or ignored. There is a difference of opinion between the attorney general and the officials of the war department as to the maximum strength of the army under the reorganization plan. It is held by the latter that the maximum is fixed by the bill at 46,000 men. As there are 40,000 in the Philippines, or on their way there, it is held that the necessity for the prompt convening of congress or the abandonment of the Philippines is apparent.

A high official of the war department said this morning:

"I am convinced, from a brief conversation I had with the President to-day, that he is seriously considering the advisability of convening congress in extra session within a very few weeks, and I shall be greatly surprised if a call is not issued before the first of April."

ALGER'S RETIREMENT

From the Cabinet Expected at an Early Day.

Washington, D. C., March 6.—Secretary Alger's retirement from the cabinet is generally expected within a few weeks. He himself denies any immediate intention of retiring and says he will not go out until the beef inquiry is finished and General Miles either substantiates his charges or is proved unreliable.

That the secretary's retirement has been discussed between him and the President is not a matter of doubt. General Alger is said to have declared the attacks made on him were purely personal, and did not affect the administration. This point of view, it is said, did not strike the President, who is reported to have taken the ground the administration should not be compelled to bear the brunt of any one man's unpopularity.

It is reported that General Anson McCook's name was once suggested by the President, but was promptly repudiated by the secretary of war, who repeated some unpleasant reflections on himself which were reported to have been made by McCook.

General Alger has repeatedly declared his willingness to resign if the President would even hint at the desirability of such action. Thus far, Alger's friends say, the President has not gone that far, while it is admitted he would feel relieved if the secretary of war would resign voluntarily.

NOT CONFIRMED

Were Any of the Brevet Nominations or Naval Promotions.

Washington, March 6.—Among the most important nominations that failed of confirmation by congress are the following:

Senators Morgan, Cullom, Representative Hitt, Sanford B. Dole and Walter F. Frear, to be Hawaiian commissioners; Martin J. Carter, of Pennsylvania, to be consul at St. John, N. F.; the naval advancements for conspicuous conduct in battle sent in with the Schley and Sampson nominations; H. G. Ewart, of North Carolina, to be United States district judge western district of North Carolina.

Samuel J. Barrows, of Massachusetts, to be librarian of congress; M. A. Daugherty, receiver of public moneys at Sidney, Neb.

All of the army brevet nominations sent to the senate were not confirmed. These include men nominated for gallant action in the Spanish war.

QUIET PREPARATIONS

Being Made to Send $3,000,000 to the Cuban Soldiers.

Washington, March 7.—Preparations are being quietly made at the War department to ship to Cuba the $3,000,000 for the payment of the Cuban troops. The distribution of the money will be under the direction of General Brooke, but Paymaster General Carey, accompanied by Major Rogers, of the pay corps, will go to Cuba at the same time to take general charge of the matter and supervise the disbursement. The money will be shipped partly in silver and partly in gold. The details of the shipment are being carefully guarded by the department. The money probably will be put aboard one of the regular army transports and be accompanied by a strong guard of regular soldiers. The date of sailing will not be generally known.

SCHLEY'S FLAGSHIP.

Cruiser Brooklyn Ordered From Havana to Hampton Roads.

Havana, March 4.—The United States armored cruiser Brooklyn received orders yesterday to sail immediately for Hampton Roads to take Rear Admiral Schley to Europe.

FOR PORTO RICO.

United States Commission to Look Into Island Affairs.

New York, March 2.—The United States transport McPherson left Brooklyn yesterday afternoon having on board Gen. Robert P. Kennedy, Major Charles W. Watkins and Congressmen Henry G. Curtis, of Iowa, constituting the Porto Rican commission. The commission will reach Porto Rico in four days to begin their work on the subjects of education, taxation, etc. One hundred and sixty recruits of the Fifth United States artillery were also aboard.

JAPAN'S FLAG

Is Now Flying Over an American Built Cruiser.

San Francisco, Feb. 2.—The cruiser Chitose, built by the Union Ironworks for the Japanese government has been formally delivered to Captain Sakurai, who will be her future commander. The vessel now flies the Japanese flag and is considered the finest ship in the Mikado's navy. She has developed a speed of 23.75 knots while manned by her own firemen.

CANAL COMPANY

Said to Be Back of This Expedition to Honduras.

Kansas City, March 3.—It is authoritatively intimated here that the filibustering expedition which left here for Honduras was part of a scheme of the Maritime Canal company to overthrow the Nicaraguan government before the expiration of its concession next October, when it must give way to Chicago-Cragin concession.

1899 Bicycles Down to $8.25.

Men's and women's new 1899 model bicycles are now being offered at $8.25 to $27.75, and sent to anyone anywhere for full examination before payment is made. For catalogue and full particulars, cut this notice out and mail to Sears, Roebuck & Co., Chicago.

ADVANCING WAGES.

Vast Improvements Shown In All Lines.

Chicago, March 7.—The Tribune prints several columns of special reports from industrial centers which show improved and improving conditions which are summarized as follows:

Cotton Manufacturing—Ten per cent advance in wages since last year. Number of employes increased 25 per cent.

Iron and Steel—Wages increased 10 to 15 per cent; other advances in sight. From 25 to 35 per cent more men employed.

Iron Mining—Plenty of work, with advancing wages.

Furniture Making—Wages advanced 15 per cent at Grand Rapids. Number of employes increased.

Copper Mining—All miners receive 10 per cent advance. Number of men at work nearly doubled since 1893.

Silver Mining—Wages return to old standard at Colorado points except Cripple Creek. Increase of from 10 to 15 per cent in number of men employed.

Lumbering—Wages 20 per cent higher than in 1893. More men wanted than can be secured.

Machinists—General return to old schedules.

Building Trades—Strong tendency at many points towards shorter hours or an increase in wages. Good season predicted.

Flour Millers—Advances expected in wages.

The Tribune continues: Two years ago William McKinley, the "advance agent of prosperity," was inaugurated President. In the language of campaign orators, he was somewhat ahead of "his show," but the "show" has arrived in the United States and is now holding the boards in a theatre extending through all the nation's degrees of latitude and longitude. The story told day by day in bank clearings of gigantic volume finds its sequel in the reports of advancing wages, which the Tribune presents today. For bank clearings, outside of purely speculative deals, represent paypolls in some shape and somewhere, for they pay for merchandise—there is a pay roll at the back of it all.

These reports, gathered by correspondents of the Tribune at all the leading industrial centers of the country, show that the "prosperity" which was preached two years ago, has reached all sections. A year ago the cotton manufacturers of New England were fighting desperate strikes, based on the assumption that the cotton mills were passing from that section forever under conditions which could not be resisted. Today wages have gone back to what they were before the great cotton strikes, and more help is needed than can be secured.

Silver-worshiping Colorado marched out of the Republican column because its leaders thought they saw ruin in the gold standard. Denver reports wages back to the old scale, and a much larger number of men employed.

In the iron and steel trade, where numerous advances have been recently announced, wages are still going upward. In the rush to meet orders manufacturers are going back, not to the old scales just prior to the panic of 1893, but to those of the times of boom in that industry, when the great fortunes of Carnegie and other iron kings were laid. A year ago there was not enough work to provide for all the workers of the country. To-day there are not enough workers to do the work which is crowding on the mills.

Hollidaysburg, Pa., March 7.—The puddlers employed in the Portage iron works, at Duncanville, have been granted an increase of 25 cents per ton. All other employes are allowed a 10 per cent increase in wages. This advance affects 500 men.

Salem, Mass., March 7.—When the operatives of the Naumkeag steam cotton mills, of this place, went to work to-day, they found posted in all mills a notice of an advance of wages, to take effect April 3. The advance practically is a restoration of the cut of January, 1898. About 1,500 hands will be affected.

Boston, March 7.—These advances in cotton mill wages were announced today:

Cabot cotton mills, Brunswick, Me., 1,000 hands; restoration to schedule in effect before January, 1898.

York corporation, Saco, Me., 1,500 hands; increase not stated.

Paul Whittin Manufacturing company, Rockdale and Northbridge, Mass, 600 hands; 10 per cent.

Zanesville, O., March 7.—The Ohio Iron company to-day notified its employes of a 10 per cent advance in wages.

Bethlehem, Pa., March 7.—The Bethlehem Iron company to-day announced a raise in wages of 10 per cent, affecting 500 common laborers.

Baltimore, March 2.—The Maryland Steel Co., of Sparrows Point, has announced a ten per cent increase in the wages of all its employes.

Providence, R. I., March 2.—The Lonsdale company, employing 2,500 persons, decided yesterday to advance wages on April 3.

Harrisburg, Pa., March 2.—The Pennsylvania Steel company posted a notice yesterday announcing that beginning April 1 next, there would be a general advance of about ten per cent in wages. The advance affects 6,000 employes.

Cleveland, O., March 2.—Within the past two days fully 8,000 workmen, largely employed in the various mills controlled by the American Steel & Wire Co., in this city, have been notified of an increase in wages ranging from 5 to 10 per cent. The orders, revival in the steel trade and advance in prices for finished material are given as reasons for the advance.

Lebanon, Pa., March 2.—The management of the Pennsylvania Bolt Works announce a ten per cent increase in wages in the puddling departments to take effect April 1. The Lebanon Rolling Mills also gives notice of a silimar increase in the wages of the employes of that establishment.

The employes of Swedes Furnace at Norristown, have received a ten per cent advance.

Martin's Ferry, O., March 2.—The American Tin Plate Co. has notified employes of local plants of the voluntary increase in wages of from five to ten per cent. One thousand men are effected.

Boston, March 4.—Advices received yesterday from several mill centers in New England make it apparent that the action of the Fall River Cotton Manufacturers taken in voting early this week to restore the schedule of wages paid in the cotton mills in 1897, has become general. Following the action of the Fall River mills, the mills in New Bedford, Rhode Island towns and other manufacturing centers of southern New England, the seven corporations of Lowell, the Amoskeag, Stark and Amory mills of Manchester, and the mills at other places have decided to advance wages on April 3. The Chicopee mills, Farnamsville company and others already have made similar announcements.

While up to yesterday Maine manufacturers had not made any announcement, it is understood that some of them have the wage question under consideration.

Thus far cotton mills, employing about 90,000 hands, have decided to restore the schedule of 1897.

IN CUBA.

MEN OUT OF WORK

May Make Trouble in the Province of Santiago.

Santiago de Cuba, March 4.—Between 2,000 and 3,000 men have been suddenly thrown out of work in the province of Santiago. Although Governor General Brooke has wired $30,000 required for the February pay rolls, there is still a deficit of nearly $20,000, and the orders from Havana still hold good limiting the expenditure during the month of March for the entire province to $10,000.

The effect of this order on Civil Governor Castillo, Mayor Bacardi and other Cubans prominent in official circles is simply paralyzing.

Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, military governor, refuses to make any further statement than that he will obey orders. Nearly $20,000 is still due for February, for which he will be personally answerable, but under the present orders he cannot continue the men at work.

Groups of men on street corners, in clubs and in cafes openly abuse the American administration, saying that the Spanish was infinitely preferable, as in the worst times during peace, considerably more men were engaged on public works under the old regime than are now so employed. Probably the full effects of the new policy will not be visible before Monday, as the men will receive their pay to-day, and although Gen. Wood does not expect disturbances, Cubans who affect to be cognizant with the whole situation say it will be quite impossible to avoid an outbreak of some sort.

In spite of all the antagonism displayed towards the American authorities at Havana, Gen. Wood remains popular among Cubans of all classes, who declare the Havana instructions an outrage upon his administration.

The new regulations have brought to a standstill all the improvements, including the dredging of the harbor, roadmaking and sewerage. Probably mass meetings will be held on Monday to protest, and inflammatory speeches are likely to be made, in spite of the orders prohibiting any criticism at public meetings of the acts of the military authorities.

CUBAN ASSEMBLY ACTS

Will Not Be Recognized by the United States Government.

Washington, March 6.—The Associated Press is authorized to state that under no conditions will the government of the United States consent to recognize in any manner any financial obligations issued by the so-called assembly of the Cuban army, now in session near Havana. Should this body see fit to authorize the issue of any bonds for any purpose the government of the United States will not be led into guaranteeing them, and they must stand on their own resources in that matter.

CUBAN MUSTER ROLL

Furnished the Americans by General Gomez.

Havana, March 6.—Governor General Brooke, referring to the complaints made at Santiago that a large number of laborers have been thrown out of work by an apparent reduction in the financial allotment to Santiago province, says the funds furnished the several provinces by the authorities at Havana, have in all cases been equal to the respective requisitions.

General Maximo Gomez has sent General Brooke a statement of the number of men in the army. It is understood that the total number is 48,000—32,000 privates, 10,000 non-commissioned officers and the rest commissioned officers from major generals to sub-lieutenants.

The statement is insufficient as a basis for the payment and a more detailed list of the various commands, with the names and whereabouts of the soldiers, is necessary. This, it is understood, General Gomez will supply.

General Brooke has received a telegram from Washington saying that paymasters with the $3,000,000 will arrive here next week. It is not likely that any trouble which the American authorities cannot circumvent will arise in connection with the actual payment.

New York, March 6.—A special from Washington says:

Paymaster General Carey has perfected arrangements for going to Cuba next week to pay off the Cuban army. Gen. Carey will take the entire appropriation of $3,000,000 to Cuba, $1,500,000 of which will be in silver and the remainder either in gold or bills. He will leave New York on one of the government transports, to which the money will be transferred from the sub-treasury, and upon his arrival at Havana he will report to Gen. Brooke.

As Gen. Gomez desires that the American officers shall handle the money, the disbursements will be made by American pay officers upon the direction of Gen. Carey, who will be furnished with a list of the officers and men comprising the Cuban army and the amount of money which should be paid to each. It is not intended by this government to furnish more than $3,000,000.

Postmaster of Havana.

Washington, March 1.—Edward P. Thompson of Indianapolis, has been selected as postmaster of Havana, Cuba.

ADMIRAL SCHLEY.

People of Maryland Present Him With a Beautiful Medal.

Baltimore, March 1.—At a great banquet here last night, Rear Admiral Schley received from the people of this, his native state, a superb testimonial of the esteem in which he is held by the people of Maryland and of their appreciation of his services to the country during the late war with Spain. The medal is beautiful beyond description. The Maryland coat of arms is made of gold in bas relief and enamel, surrounded by a circle of fine diamonds, around which is an oak wreath intertwined with diamonds, held by a ribbon of blue enamel, the edge of which is set with diamonds, and on which is the inscription: "Maryland honors her son—Winfield Scott Schley."

Entwined in the ribbon are an anchor of diamonds and two swords, the hilts and guards of which are studded with diamonds. At the top is the coat of arms of the United States, through which is a navy blue ribbon with two stars, indicating the rank of rear admiral. On the reverse, is a very fine outline of the cruiser Brooklyn in bas relief. Altogether there are 320 diamonds in the medal. Two months were required for its making.

HAS PROBABLY ARRIVED.

The Philadelphia Thought to Be at Samoa by This Time.

Washington, March 7.—A cablegram received at the navy department to-day relative to the Philadelphia, which was placed under orders to proceed to Samoa after the outbreak of the recent trouble there, says she sailed from Honolulu February 22, for Samoa. It is about 2,500 miles on the ocean from Hawaii, and it is expected that the Philadelphia is already in Samoa. She probably made the distance in twelve days.

The Princeton, which is being hurried to Manila to reinforce Admiral Dewey's fleet, sailed from Colombo yesterday.

I CURE FITS

When I say I cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Post Office.

Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F.D., 4 Cedar St., N.Y.

MAD, MERCILESS MARCH!

What it Means to the Countless Army of Lung Sufferers.

BEGIN NOW TO FORTIFY YOURSELF

Catarrh, Bronchitis, Grip, or Its After-Effects, Asthma, Weak System, Lingering Cough, and All Other Consumptive Tendencies, Should be Looked After Carefully at Just This Time.

What March Means.

What the frost is to the flower, is March, mad, merciless March, to the consumptive. March is a month fraught with fearful possibilities and countless dangers.

March is the time to look after the "little things in health," for many a consumptive's grave has been filled by one who neglected a simple cold, and realized the truth only when consumption's wicked grasp was upon him.

Fortify Yourself.

Now; not to-morrow, or the day after, but to-day—NOW—is the time to begin to fortify yourself against the ravages of possible disease in the months to come.

Remember that even the healthiest and most vigorous person in the world comes out of the month of March weaker and less vigorous than at the beginning. Then what must it mean to the millions of lung sufferers, who haven't the vitality to fight the elements?

It means one thing to many—DEATH!

Don't be one of those who take chances. Stock your constitution with a fighting array of strength that will overcome any condition of climate or weather. Make of yourself an invincible fortress of health, a veritable Gibraltar of strength.

If you are well and strong and hearty now, do this as an extra precaution; but if you are in any way a lung sufferer, if you have catarrh, asthma, bronchitis, grip, or its after-effects, any kind of a cough, shortness of breath, a hereditary consumptive history, occasional chest-pains, rough breathing, "morning and evening" coughing spells, poor circulation, pimply skin, night sweats, or any other symptom that shows a consumptive tendency, don't hesitate for a moment, but fortify yourself at once.

The Way.

Heretofore there have been many different ways to fortify yourself, but nothing that could cover ALL conditions, until the eminent medical scientist, Doctor Slocum, gave to the world the benefit of years of scientific study and research, and promulgated what has since been named in his honor, the SLOCUM SYSTEM.

In the SLOCUM SYSTEM, which consists of four distinctly different preparations, a carefully thought-out and scientifically constructed system of treatment is given.

FIRST, it seizes on every germ in the nose, throat, chest or lungs, and drives them completely out of the system, thereby removing the cause of the disease.

SECOND, it introduces into the weakened and debilitated system a strengthening, invigorating and fattening food, which builds up and restores the wasted and worn out tissues.

THIRD, it soothes and allays all inflammation of the alimentary canal, stops all catarrhal discharges and conquers the cough.

FOURTH, it gives the system a tonic influence, which stimulates, invigorates, strengthens and makes the blood red, rosy and of quick, healthy action. It vitalizes every weak and "rundown" condition, quickens the brain and regulates the heart, till the whole system responds with a warm, natural glow of perfect health.

Practical Philanthropy.

Much as the SLOCUM SYSTEM means to humanity, it may be obtained by the readers of the Toledo Weekly Blade for the asking, owing to the desire of Doctor Slocum that humanity may reap the reward of his long years of labor.

By special arrangement with Doctor Slocum, the readers of the Toledo Weekly Blade may have the four preparations of the SLOCUM SYSTEM by simply sending their names and complete addresses to the SLOCUM LABORATORIES, 96 and 98 Pine street, New York City.

Write to the Doctor To-Day.

No matter what your difficulty, no matter what your fears, write to Doctor Slocum. Write fully and freely, with the idea that you are addressing a man with a big, broad, liberal mind, who has given the best part of his life to the study of just such a case as yours, and who will give you advice freely and generously.

Address DR. T. A. SLOCUM, 98 Pine street, New York City, and say that you read this generous offer in the Toledo Weekly Blade.

KIPLING IS BETTER,

But His Little Daughter Josephine Dies.

New York, March 6.—Rudyard Kipling continues to improve, having slept naturally the greater part of last night. He has taken no solid food and it may be a week before he is able to do so. He is subsisting on beef extract, milk and other fluid nutrients. Elsie, Mr. Kipling's 3-year-old daughter, passed a good night.

Josephine Kipling, the 6-year-old daughter of Rudyard Kipling and the oldest of his three children, died shortly after 6 o'clock this morning from pneumonia. The child's death took place at the home of Miss Julie DeForest, in this city. Miss DeForest is a friend of the Kiplings and Josephine had been taken to her home so that she could be nursed apart from her father.

The girl became ill the day after Mr. Kipling took to his bed. It is not definitely known whether the news of the death of his child was communicated to Mr. Kipling, but it was generally believed that his condition is such that his physicians will not tell him until he is stronger.

WILL BE IMPOSING.

The Ceremonies When Judge Day Is Sworn Into Office.

Cincinnati, O., March 1.—Hon. William R. Day, former secretary of state and president of the Paris peace commission, who was appointed by President McKinley to the circuit judgship of this circuit, will, when the appointment is confirmed, be sworn into office in Cincinnati. The oath of office will be administered in the United States circuit court room, probably by Judge William H. Taft. An effort will be made to have the ceremonies unusually imposing on account of the prominence of the new judge.

The eight United States judges in this circuit will be invited to be present. They are as follows: Judges William H. Taft and A. C. Thompson, of Ohio; Lurton, Clark and Hammond, of Tennessee; Swan and Severens, of Michigan, and Judge Ricks, of Ohio.

A NEW SERUM

Which Is Expected to Prove a Cure for Dread Pneumonia.

New York, March 3.—A dispatch from Berlin says:

Prof Wasserman, one of Prof. Koch's ablest pupils, is believed to have discovered a new serum for the cure of pneumonia.

He inoculated rabbits with the pneumococcus bicillus, which is generally believed to cause pneumonia, and with the serum thus obtained he inoculated mice suffering from pneumonia. A subsequent series of experiments showed that it was in the red marrow of the bones that the antitoxin is produced, and that red marrow taken from a human corpse after death from pneumonia and used as a serum will cure mice infected with that disease. Accordingly it is hoped that this serum will have the same satisfactory result in human beings.

Gunboat for Manila.

Vancouver, B. C., March 3.—The United States gunboat Wheeling will sail today for Manila via Honolulu. On arriving at the Philippines her commander will report to Admiral Dewey for duty. She is armed with ten guns, carries 130 men and is a speedy boat of her class.

Sheridan at Gibraltar.

Gibraltar, March 3.—The United States transport Sheridan which sailed from New York February 19, having on board the Twelfth regiment infantry and a battalion of the Seventeenth regiment, has arrived here. Owing to sickness on the vessel she has been quarantined.

Sailed for Manila.

San Francisco, March 3.—The United States transport Portland sailed yesterday for Manila. She carries a number of recruits and a great cargo of supplies for the army and navy departments in the Philippines.

Ordered to Manila.

Huntsville, Ala., March 6.—The Third battalion of the Sixteenth infantry, as it was boarding the train for Fort Leavenworth, Kan., yesterday, was ordered to San Francisco, to take transport for Manila.

STEAMER LABRADOR WRECKED.

Lost Bearings in a Fog Off the Irish Coast.

Montreal, March 2.—A cablegram received last night by the Dominion Steamship line agents here announces the total loss of the company's steamer Labrador from St. John, N. B., for Liverpool. The passengers were all saved. The Labrador went on Skerrymore rock at 7 o'clock yesterday morning. The Labrador is a steel steamer of 2,298 net register, 401 feet long by 47.2 feet beam and 28.3 feet depth of hold.

It is reported that Agoncillo, representative of the Philippines, was a passenger.

Story of the Wreck.

Tobermory, Scotland, March 2.—Investigation into the wreck of the British steamer Labrador from St. John, N. B., for Liverpool, shows that she ran ashore about four miles from Skerryvore, on Wednesday morning. Capt. Erskine, her commander, has sent the following dispatch to the agents of the steamer at Liverpool:

"Labrador ran on Mackenzie rock, in a thick fog, at 7 o'clock yesterday morning, four miles from Skerryvore. The ship was caught amidships, the seas breaking over her. Holds Nos. 1, 2 and 3 were soon full of water. The passengers and crew were saved in the boats. One boatload was landed at Skerryvore lighthouse. The German steamer Viking picked up the remainder. No steamer is obtainable to return for the passengers. If the ship is not broken up, we will endeavor to save the mails when a steamer is obtained."

The Labrador had a good passage until Sunday, when she entered a fog bank and lost her bearings. Skerryvore light was mistaken for Inistrahull light, on the north of Ireland. Most of the passengers were still in bed when the steamer struck, and there was much excitement, but the passengers were calmed by the assurances of the captain. The boats were lowered without a hitch, and all on board left the steamer in safety.

The passengers and crew lost everything they possessed. The women and children were put in the first boat and the passengers in the second boat; the crew took the other boats.

After three and one-half hours the boats met the steamer Viking, from Norway, which took them on board.

When the Labrador was last seen, she was settling down by the stern. The passengers of the steamer are full of praise for the Labrador's officers and crew and for the conduct of the captain of the Viking.

STEAMER WRECKED.

The Fate of Her Crew Is as Yet Unknown.

Gloucester, Mass., March 1.—Captain William Corkum of the fishing schooner Mondego, which arrived at this port from a fishing trip yesterday, brought news that the overdue steamer Moravia, Captain Ferguson, which sailed from Hamburg for Boston January 18, was wrecked on the northeast bar of Sable Island about February 12.

The steamer carried a cargo of general merchandise, mainly for Boston firms. Both vessel and cargo were insured. She had a crew of thirty men. The Moravia was an iron vessel of 2,141 tons register, built in Glasgow in 1883.

Captain Spinney of the schooner Arbitrator, having been in the vicinity of the wreck for a day or two after the violent gales of February 12 and 13, sighted the wreck and stood by watching for signs of life, but failing to see any had proceeded on his course to the fishing grounds.

Transport Valencia.

San Francisco, March 6.—The transport Valencia started yesterday for Manila, via Honolulu. She carried about 150 recruits for the infantry, artillery and hospital corps, and was laden with supplies of all kinds for the troops in Hawaii and the Philippines. The most important item of her cargo was $1,500,000 in coin under the charge of Major Eugene Coffin, paymaster U. S. A.

Returned From Manila.

San Francisco, March 6.—The transport City of Puebla has arrived at this port, after an eventful voyage, from Manila. Her passengers include twenty convalescent soldiers of various regiments, six sailors from the Baltimore, whose terms have expired, and Miss West, a Red Cross hospital nurse.

THE DEADLOCKS.

Lincoln, Neb., March 7.—Republican members of the legislature who are opposed to M. L. Hayward for senator aided by the fusionists, effected a coup by which the Republican caucus last night might have nominated Hayward, was prevented. At the conclusion of the senatorial ballot at noon it was voted to take a recess until 8 o'clock, the hour for the caucus. Supporters of Hayward opposed the motion with success. Four ballots were taken to-night, the last resulting: Allen, (Pop.) 57; Hayward, (Rep.) 37; Webster, (Rep.) 11; Field, (Rep.) 8; Lambertson, (Rep.) 4; Reese, (Rep.) 3; Weston, (Rep.) 3; Adams, (Rep.) 1; Hainer, (Rep.) 1; E. M. Allen, (Rep.) 1.

Harrisburg, Pa., March 7.—There were rumors current here last night that Senator Quay will withdraw before the close of the present week and that Col. George F. Huff, of Greensburg, will be chosen his successor in the United States senate. Senator Quay's managers ridicule the report and insist that under no conditions will he withdraw.

Relief Goes to Manila.

New York, March 3.—The United States hospital ship Relief sailed yesterday for Manila. She is in command of Surgeon Major Bradley and will carry to General Otis for the relief of the sick and wounded at Manila a full cargo of medical supplies and delicacies, as well as 200 additional hospital corps men and a number of acting assistant surgeons and hospital stewards.

Voyage of the Sherman.

Island of Perim, Straits of Bab-El-Mandeb, March 3.—The United States transport Sherman arrived here Wednesday on her way to Manila.

Markets and Crops.

TRADE REPORTS.

One Great Feature of the Commercial Situation.

New York, March 4.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says:

The business of the past month was far the greatest ever known in February. Clearing house exchanges were about $7,000,000,000, against $5,567,553,844 last year, and 54.21 larger than in 1892. In all the years of weekly commercial reporting there has been no other week in which the reports from all parts of the country have been, on the whole, so good as they are this week.

Moreover, during the past week there has been a general advance in wages, immediate or prospective. At most points the advance of 10 per cent or more was entirely voluntary. It has averaged 5 to 10 per cent in tin plate works, and about 10 per cent in other cases, and as it affects much over 100,000 hands, it will add greatly to the purchasing power of the wage earners.

The return of failures in February, while showing larger liabilities than in January are highly encouraging. A rather unusual number of large failures in scattered branches of manufacture has swelled the aggregate, including one concern for $4,000,000 in electrical apparatus, but in nearly all branches the statement indicates a remarkably healthy condition, in spite of these failures, while in trading the defaulted liabilities are smaller in January for any previous winter month for six years.

In prices, the striking feature has been the rapid advance in iron and steel products, resulting from a demand greater than the works in the country can supply. All the works of importance have been crowded with orders running to July and later. Belated buyers have given life to concerns long inactive, and as these add but little to the output the markets have been entirely controlled by the buying demand. All sorts of prices have been paid, some for early delivery and some for delivery after July 1, but $18.50 is quoted for bessemer pig at Pittsburg, $12.50 for grey forge, and at the east $14.25 is quoted for anthracite No. 1. Prices for finished products have also been advanced $2 per ton for eastern and western bars, plates and structural forms, and for wire nails. The demand has not yet been checked, and some heavy orders have been taken at all points, even at the highest price named, but the export business is likely to be stopped for the present.

Holders of wheat have been looking for the report of the agricultural department regarding stocks held by farmers, March 1st., but commercial reports indicate that such are the largest ever held at this date. They have to support them in the western receipts from farmers which have been larger than for past years in February for four weeks, 12,571,000 bushels against 10,004,400 bushels last year while Atlantic exports have been for four weeks 12,829,756 against 9,878,636 last year. The Pacific exports have been 605,737 bushels for the week against 64,993 last year, and from other ports 187,829 bushels have been shipped during the past week. Rarely if ever, has there been as great a demand for grain at this season as now appears, but the price has yielded 1¼c for the week, although corn has advanced ½c for spot, the receipts having fallen.

The textile industries are making progress. There has been a strong increase in demand for cotton goods, resulting in further advances in the prices of some, while in woolen goods a slight advance appears notwithstanding a decline in the prices of wool, nor has the advance in goods. The heavy weight season has been disappointing and the manufacturers are willing to wait for the time as best they can in the hope that larger demand will come from the clothiers a little later.

Failures for the week have been in the United States 186 against 251 last year, and 47 in Canada against 32 last year.

CROPS INJURED

By the Severe Cold Weather of February.

BY THE SEVERE COLD WEATHER OF FEBRUARY.

Reports From Many States Showing Conditions and the Probable Losses.

Chicago, March 3.—The Tribune prints dispatches from states in which the crops have been injured by the severe weather of February. The statistics show the following conditions:

Illinois—Wheat, not damaged in central section but injured in southern section.

Iowa—Peach crop destroyed; pears and apples damaged.

Wisconsin—Winter wheat injured; potatoes in pits frozen.

Michigan—Potatoes in pits, 40 per cent crop; peaches, 60 per cent crop.

Nebraska—Peaches, pears and apples badly damaged.

Missouri—Meagre fruit prospects.

Kansas—Small apple crop; strawberries killed.

Georgia—Peaches, prunes and pears all killed; early vegetables ruined.

Florida—Citron fruit and trees damaged 15 per cent; general fruit crop 30 per cent better than last year; 90 per cent of vegetable crop destroyed.

Louisiana—Loss to orange crop $800,000 to $1,000,000; truck farmers loss $500,000; sugar can damaged.

West Virginia—Wheat crop all right potatoes 60 per cent crop; apples 10 per cent crop; live stock suffered severely.

Alabama—Market gardens complete loss; wheat prospects fine.

North Carolina—Growing vegetables safe; peach buds injured; snow saves wheat crop.

South Carolina—Wheat crop and fruit trees safe; damage to vegetables and fruit blossoms in state $100,000.

Kentucky—Peach crop killed; wheat 85 per cent crop; apples all right.

California—Lemon and orange crops short; apricots damaged; rain needed.

Delaware—Peach crop almost a total loss; pear crop short; plums, raspberries and blackberries killed.

REVIEW OF WEEK'S BUSINESS.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE,
Toledo O., March 7, 1899.

Trade in wheat has not been active during the past week. The European demand has continued in fairly good volume. As compared with a week ago, cash wheat is 1½c lower and May 1¾c down. Drought is reported from California which threatens much damage. The reports of damage to the growing wheat in the winter wheat district have not come in so frequently this week as the preceding one. Corn has sold freely at times. Prices are off about ½c for the week on cash and May. Oats dull most of the time with a fractional decline established. Clover seed has held steady. Prices at the close to-day vary little from those ruling a week ago.

Condition of the Grain Trade at the Close To-Day.

Report of continued dry weather in California and a trifle better cables, started wheat ⅛ to ¼c higher to-day, but there was little support and ease soon resulted. Warm weather prevailed throughout the winter wheat belt, and there was an absence of crop damage reports. The world's increase was greater than anticipated. There was no distinctively bull feature. The markets were dull all around for wheat Closing prices were almost the lowest point of the day.

Prices of wheat to-day:

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
May—				
Toledo	73½	73½	71⅝	71⅝
Chicago	72¾	73	71¾	71¾
New York	76⅞	76⅞	75⅛	a75¼
St. Louis	75⅝	75⅞	a75¼	a75¼
Minneapolis	a70⅝	b70¾	69¾	69¾

At Chicago July wheat opened at 71c; high, 71¾c; low, 70c; close, 70¾c. At New York July wheat opened at 75¾c, and fell to 74⅝c bid. At St. Louis July wheat opened at 69c, fell to 68⅝c asked, rose to 69⅛c asked, and closed at 68⅝c.

Total clearances wheat and flour, 375,000 bushels; corn, 548,000.

Primary receipts of wheat, 383,000 bushels; same time last year, 472,000; shipments, 194,000 bushels; same time last year, 282,000. Receipts of corn, 1,000 bushels; same time last year, 922,000; shipments, 416,000 bushels; same time last year, 678,000.

Bradstreet's shows: World's wheat, increase, 3,250,000 bushels; corn, increase, 1,257,000 bushels; oats, 425,000 bushels.

Paris wheat closed 5 centimes lower, flour, 5 c10c lower.

Liverpool wheat closed ¼d higher than yesterday; corn, ¼d higher.

May oats at Chicago, 27⅜c; high, 27⅝; low, 27⅜; close, 27½; July, 25¾, open and high, and 25⅜ low and close.

March pork at Chicago, $9.00; May, $9.22; high, $9.35; low and close, $9.25.

Lard at Chicago for March, $5.22; May $5.40; high, $5.42; low and close, $5.37.

Corn sold light during the day. The receipts were under estimates and cables steadier to start. Prices started a little up, but soon there was a declining tendency. At Chicago May corn opened at 25¾c, rose to 26c, fell to 25¾c, and closed at that price. July, 26¼c; high, 26¾c; low and close, 26@26¼c. At New York corn opened at 40½c, rose to 40¾c, and closed at 40⅝c bid; July, 40¾c bid, 41c bid, and close, 40⅝c asked.

The Close at Toledo—Wheat Lower.

Cash wheat unchanged; May 5c lower, and July 4c off. Trade dull and prices closed weak.

No. 2 soft red wheat, 74c, then 73¾c.

May wheat 75¾c; close, 74¾c; July, 73¾c; close, 72c bid.

Corn—Fairly Active, Steady.

Corn sold to a fairly liberal extent at steady prices. No. 2 mixed corn, 34½c; No. 3 corn, 33½c; No. 2 yellow, 35½c; No. 3 yellow, 35c; No. 2 white, 36c; No. 3 white, 34½c; No. 2 May, 36c, close 36¼c; July, 36¾c, 36¾c, and close, 36¾c.

Oats dull, steady; No. 2 mixed, 29c bid; No. 2 mixed May, 29c; No. 2 white, 31c bid.

Rye dull, steady; No. 2, 56c bid.

Clover seed, fair business, steady. Prime, cash and March, $3.85; April, $3.87; asked; October, $4.10 asked. No. 2 seed, $3.40, new. Receipts, 460 bags; shipments, 1,380.

F. N. Quale reports street prices No. 2 soft red wheat 73c; No. 2 white, 68c; corn, 32c; oats, white, 30c; rye, 54c.

Toledo Produce Market.

Trade dull. There is little that is new Eggs are firmer. Vegetables steady. Fruits hold well up. Dressed meats steady.

Butter—Finest creamery 19@20c; Ohio and Michigan, 19c; Elgin, 20c.

Eggs—Strictly fresh, 18c.

Cheese—Best September make, 10@11½c; October, 10@11c.

Vegetables—Cabbages, per lb., 2½c; potatoes, bu., 60@65c; carrots, bu., 25c; turnips, bu., 25c; onions, bu., 50c; beets, bu., $1.15; celery, dozen stalks, 30@35c; lettuce, lb., 8c; sweet potatoes, bbl., $2.00; bushel, 75c; parsnips, bu., 35c.

Poultry—Spring chickens, lb., 10c; yearlings, 9c; turkeys, lb., 12½c; ducks, lb., 9c; geese, lb., 8c.

Lard—No. 1 kettle rendered, 6c.

Hay—Timothy, car lots, choice, ton, $8.00 @8.50; No. 1 hay, ton, $8.00; No